

RADFORD UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
2024-2025

Table of Contents

Please click on the date to be forwarded to the minutes.

a. April 25, 2024.....	2
b. August 14, 2024.....	4
c. August 29, 2024.....	7
d. September 19, 2024.....	11
e. October 3, 2024.....	15
f. October 17, 2024.....	19
g. October 31, 2024.....	22
h. November 14, 2024.....	25
i. December 5, 2024.....	27
j. January 23, 2025.....	29
k. February 6, 2025.....	32
l. February 20, 2025.....	35
m. March 6, 2025.....	38
n. March 27, 2025.....	41
o. April 10, 2025.....	44
p. April 24, 2025.....	47
q. May 1, 2025.....	50

April 25, 2024

MINUTES
2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting
April 25, 2024
Zoom

Members present:

Alyssa Archer, David Beach, John Brummette, Eric Choate, Matt Close, John Cook, Scott Dunn, Jeannine Everhart (Kim Baskette), Kevin Farrell, Jake Fox, Kurt Gingrich, Steve Glass, Vanessa Hedge, Rhett Herman, Judy Jenks, Jae Jeong, Naveen Joseph, Sarah Kennedy, Kim Lane, Michelle Lenhart, Luke Liska, Camilla Morrison, Kereen Mullenbach, Roby Page, Tara Pelletier, Inessa Plekhanova, Geoff Pollick, Sarah Rakes (Susan Schoppelrey), Tammy Robinson, Dave Sallee, Rachael Santos, Liang Shao, Judy Smith, Maneesh Thakkar, Susan Van Patten

Members absent:

Ian Barland, Brian Buccola, Holly Cline, Tara Chitwood, Vesna Costello, Tim Fuhrer, Roofia Galeshi, Daniel Reed, Ryan Smith, Eftila Tanellari, Cheri Triplett, Brent Webb

- I. Meeting was called to order at 5:05pm by Dr. Kurt Gingrich.
- II. Welcome to all senators, especially to those just recently elected.
- III. Elections were held for officers of the 2024-2025 Faculty Senate
 - a. President
 - i. Jake Fox was nominated but declined nomination.
 - ii. Matt Close was nominated and seconded.
 - iii. Matt Close was elected with 31 votes and 4 abstentions.
 - b. Vice President
 - i. Jake Fox was nominated and seconded.
 - ii. Geoff Pollick was nominated but declined nomination.
 - iii. Jake Fox was elected with 33 votes and 1 abstention.
 - c. Secretary
 - i. David Beach was nominated and seconded.
 - ii. David Beach was re-elected with 33 votes and 1 abstention.
 - d. At-Large
 - i. Alyssa Archer was nominated and seconded.
 - ii. Kevin Farrell was nominated and seconded.
 - iii. John Brummette was nominated and seconded.
 - iv. Alyssa Archer was elected in the first round with 19 votes.
 - e. At-Large
 - i. Kevin Farrell was nominated and seconded.
 - ii. John Brummette was nominated and seconded.
 - iii. Kevin Farrell was elected in the second round with 26 votes.
 - f. Parliamentarian
 - i. Ian Barland was nominated and seconded.
 - ii. Kurt Gingrich was nominated and seconded

iii. Kurt Gingrich was elected with 19 votes.

IV. Announcements

- a. Watch for emails during the summer.
- b. Thanks to Kurt Gingrich for serving two years as President.

V. The meeting was adjourned at 5:23pm

[To the Table of Contents](#)

August 14, 2024

MINUTES
2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting
August 14, 2024
Heth 043

Members present:

Alyssa Archer, Kim Baskette, David Beach, John Brummette, Brian Buccola, Tara Chitwood, Eric Choate, Matt Close, John Cook, Scott Dunn, Kevin Farrell, Jake Fox, Roofia Galeshi, Kurt Gingrich, Stephen Glass, Rhett Herman, Judy Jenks, Jae Jeong, Naveen Joseph, Sarah Kennedy, Kim Lane, Michelle Lenhart, Luke Liska, Eric Mesmer, Camilla Morrison, Kereen Mullenbach, Roby Page, Tara Pelletier, Inessa Plekhanova, Geoff Pollick, Sarah Rakes, Daniel Reed, Tammy Robinson, Rachel Rotert (representing Music), Rachael Santos, Judy Smith, Ryan Smith, Eftila Tanellari, Maneesh Thakkar, Susan Van Patten, Brent Webb

Members absent:

Ian Barland, Holly Cline, Vesna Costello, Dave Sallee, Liang Shao, Cheri Triplett

- I. Meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by Dr. Matthew Close.
- II. Approval of April 25, 2024 minutes (last meeting of 2023-24 and election meeting for 2024-25)
- III. Provost's Report: Dr. Bethany Usher
Unanimous consent to moving Provost's Report to later in meeting when Provost becomes available.
- IV. Special Report: Dr. Jerel Benton, Assistant Provost for Student Success
 - a. Introductory remarks
 - b. Guests from Student Success: Solitaire Kelly, Susan Hudson
 - c. Discussed the Student Success organizational chart
 - d. Current priorities: process and policy improvement, retention and progression, enhanced academic advising model, student success council
 - e. First week attendance verification
- V. Special Report: Dr. David Beach, Director of Undergraduate Curriculum
 - a. Reviewed results from May 2024 survey on general education
 - b. Updates on REAL Curriculum, Transfer Credit, Experiential Learning/SB 1280
 - c. Possible collaboration with Virginia Tech and New River Community College on place-based education
- VI. Faculty Senate President's Report: Dr. Matthew Close
 - a. FSEC met over summer with Provost discussing GenEd, T&R Faculty Handbook revision
 - b. Attended Board of Visitors Retreat July 22-23.
 - i. Generative AI and its role at the University
 - ii. Strategic Planning Committee
 - I. Sharon Roger Hepburn and Angela Joyner will co-chair

- II. Need for faculty from every college need to be represented
 - c. Student Success Council – will need senator representation
 - d. As committees meet today to elect officers, please review charges, adding/modifying and setting priorities.
 - i. Prompt for discussion: What are three things my committee can do to ensure student success?
- VII. Introduction to Senate Procedure: Dr. Kurt Gingrich, Parliamentarian
- a. Review of Senate Constitution, Bylaws, and procedures
- VIII. Provost’s Report: Dr. Bethany Usher
- a. Welcome back
 - b. As of today, 7,499 students have registered for classes
 - i. One more Quest scheduled
 - ii. Overall GPA of 3.46
 - iii. Freshman retention: 75%, 2% higher than 2023-24, 5% higher than 2022-23
 - iv. Transfer retention: 83%
 - v. Most growth at Radford Campus, steady at Roanoke Campus
 - c. New cohort of around 20 faculty attending New Faculty Orientation
 - d. Opening of Artis Center will start a Celebration of a Year of Creativity and Innovation
 - e. Starting the Provost Speaker Series with key faculty speaking on issues related to the community
 - f. AALT updates
 - i. Two new Deans: Donna McCloskey (DCOBE) and Wendy Downey (CoN)
 - ii. Interim Dean: Jeff Aspelmeier (CHBS)
 - g. Have navigated what felt like a crisis last year with a leadership vacuum and drop in the number of students. Challenge is to continue doing the kinds of things we did to work together.
 - h. Focus on developing a Community of Care/Well-Being as part of the Strategic Plan – how Radford as a public, regional university can support students and faculty/staff who are invested in the well-being of the community.
 - i. This year, same total number of students as last year. Need to continue to make changes to maintain status of 7,500 to 8,000 students. No plans to grow bigger than that.
 - j. Goals for 2024-25:
 - i. Align curriculum with Curriculum Lifecycle
 - ii. Modernize process designed for larger university
 - iii. Streamline Faculty Handbook
 - iv. More student voice in shaping direction of University
 - v. Invest in health sciences in Roanoke
 - vi. Joining conversation about adapting academic calendars
- IX. Committee Organizational Meetings
- a. Campus Environment
 - i. Chair: Ryan Smith
 - ii. Secretary: Rachel Santos
 - b. Curriculum
 - i. Chair: Eric Choate

- ii. Secretary: Alyssa Archer
 - c. Faculty Issues
 - i. Chair: Kevin Farrell
 - ii. Secretary: Judy Smith
 - d. Governance
 - i. Chair: Kereen Mullenbach
 - ii. Secretary: Scott Dunn
 - e. Resource Allocation
 - i. Chair: Jake Stewart
 - ii. Secretary: Tara Pelletier
 - f. Reports from discussions: What are three things your committee can do to ensure student success?
 - i. Campus Environment
 - I. Faculty Morale Survey – specifically think about results
 - II. Dalton redesign
 - III. Urging attendance and recording attendance in innovative ways
 - ii. Curriculum
 - I. Gen ed reform
 - II. Accessibility of course materials especially in the first few days
 - III. Course duplication (are minors doing the same things in different places)
 - iii. Faculty Issues
 - I. A happy faculty better serves the students (salary, travel)
 - II. Address any new calendar issues from faculty and student perspective
 - III. Workload – address ways for faculty to be more present for studies
 - iv. Governance
 - I. Didn't get to prompt
 - v. Resource Allocation
 - I. Obtaining transparencies in allocation of lab fees
 - II. Educating both UG and faculty of resources for UG research
 - III. Providing some travel funding for UG and professors regardless of rank
- X. Election for Secretary of Faculty Senate
 - a. Geoff Pollick nominated and seconded
 - b. Suspension of Rules to elect by acclamation
 - c. Pollick elected by acclamation
- XI. New Business
 - a. None
- XII. Announcements
 - a. Library Welcome Back Reception at 4:30pm
- XIII. The meeting was adjourned at 4:03pm

[To the Table of Contents](#)

August 29, 2024

MINUTES
2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting
August 29, 2024
via Zoom videoconference

Members present:

Alyssa Archer, Ian Barland, Kim Baskette, Jason Browning, John Brummette, Brian Buccola, Mike Chatham, Tara Chitwood, Eric Choate, Matt Close, Carey Cole (substitute for Judy Jenks), Scott Dunn, Kevin Farrell, Jake Fox, Tim Fuhrer, Kim Gainer, Roofia Galeshi, Kurt Gingrich, Stephen Glass, Rhett Herman, Jae Jeong, Naveen Joseph, Kim Lane, Bethany Lanier, Michelle Lenhart, Luke Liska, Eric Mesmer, Camilla Morrison, Kereen Mullenbach, Roby Page, Tara Pelletier, Inessa Plekhanova, Geoff Pollick, Andrew Murray (substitute for JC Cook), Sarah Rakes, Daniel Reed, Tammy Robinson, Rachel Rotert, David Sallee, Rachael Santos, Will Sawyer, Liang Shao, Judy Smith, Ryan Smith, Jake Stewart, Eftila Tanellari, Susan Van Patten, Brent Webb, Marjorie Young

Members absent:

JC Cook (substituted by A. Murray), Judy Jenks (substituted by C. Cole), Cheri Triplett

- I. Meeting was called to order at 3:30pm by Dr. Matthew Close.
- II. The minutes of the August 14, 2024, meeting were approved.
- III. University President's Report: Dr. Bret Danilowicz
 - a. The Artis Center for Adaptive Innovation and Creativity is newly opened and is quite impressive. Faculty are encouraged to visit the building and attend the Sept. 5 opening reception, 4:30 PM, Artis Center Courtyard.
 - b. The student population has increased by approximately 330, resulting from more than 500 new students enrolled.
 - c. Tartan Transfer agreements with 8 community college partners are expected to be finalized later this fall.
 - d. Radford University is applying to add an academic-year Governors School of Arts and Humanities, in collaboration with public schools in our four adjacent counties, to enhance the scale of offerings for local high school students. These students will be intermixed with regular undergraduate course sections alongside Radford University students.
 - e. The president convened a conversation with wide a constituency of campus representatives, including the Secretary of Faculty Senate, to determine preliminary background information that will aid in seeking consultants to plan the renovation of Dalton Hall, the Hurlburt Student Center, and McConnell Library.
 - f. Construction will soon begin to install the CoGen natural-gas power plant, replacing Radford University's reliance on coal-powered energy. Completion of the facility is estimated for late 2025, projecting \$2m savings to the university.
 - g. In Q&A, the president addressed a question of the presentation of mature content and faculty academic freedom in relation to the planned academic-year Governors School. The intention of the proposal is that faculty will not change content, and

that minor students and their parents will be made aware of and agree to such academic freedom.

- h. The president also addressed the university's new policy prohibiting the wearing of face coverings, stating that the policy conforms to existing law and makes explicit a previously tacit mode of compliance with Virginia code. Enforcement of the policy will remain respectful of all who wear face coverings for religious or medical purposes and will support a policy of de-escalation when conflict occurs on campus. This policy also comes with broader attention to updating policies, as with the Minors on Campus policy.

IV. Provost's Report: Dr. Bethany Usher

- a. The provost shared affirmative observations about the campus environment at the start of semester.
- b. Improvements are underway to update the user experience of interacting with Radford University information in the Transfer Virginia portal and in determining course equivalencies.
- c. Academic Affairs is pursuing a general goal of improving processes and implementing policies, e.g., designing efficiency in assigning graduate faculty status following the reorganization of the Office of Graduate Affairs.
- d. An institutional goal continues to be improvement of overall student retention. The university saw notable recent improvements that need to continue.
- e. Enrollment Management admitted ~20 students who did not meet some academic standards as successfully as other students, and a cohort support model has been implemented to assist these students under the leadership of Dr. Jerel Benton.
- f. Conversations continue about planning for Radford University in Roanoke operations, requesting building planning funds from Richmond and devising a leadership structure to support academic program planning.
- g. Two searches for deans will begin this fall, for dean of CHBS and of CVPA. A previous decision was reached not to merge these colleges after studying the questions of cost-saving and improved program collaboration. No significant cost-reduction would occur, and the current structure does not impede collaboration. Before hiring a search firm to plan these positions, the provost awaits work from Faculty Senate to revise T&R Faculty Handbook §1.3.3, to alter requirements for composition of committees to select deans.
- h. The provost provided background context for Motion 24-25.01, entering New Business at this meeting, and described deliberations with SCHEV on the proper organization of faculty and programs within the College of Nursing.
- i. *Threads*, the newsletter of the Office of the Provost, is forthcoming but delayed due to a staff member's leave.

V. Faculty Senate President's Report: Dr. Matthew Close

- a. FSEC submitted to President Danilowicz names of faculty members nominated to represent each college on the Strategic Planning Committee and are now under consideration by the president, who will select one colleague per college to serve on the committee.
- b. The Board of Visitors will meet in Radford, Sept. 4–6. Faculty Senate President and Provost Usher will attend New Member Orientation on Sept. 4. Faculty Senators and members of the General Faculty are encouraged to attend the open meeting of the

board. As the board will meet on floor 3 of Martin Hall, overflow seating will be available on floor 2 of Martin Hall.

- i. Senators are reminded of the board's invitation to a reception at The HUB at Radford, Sept. 4, 5:00–6:30 PM, and of the request to RSVP by August 30, as received via email.
- c. Senators interested in serving on the newly forming Student Success Council are asked to indicate their interest in by sending email to any member of FSEC.
- d. The deadline to submit applications for Faculty Professional Development Leave is confirmed as Nov 4, by 11:59 PM.
- e. Committee chairs are asked to prioritize and finalize committee charges at their Sept. 5 meetings, and to email their finalized charges to President Close and Secretary Pollick.
- f. Secretary Pollick added to President Close's report a request for patience with slow updates to Faculty Senate webpages, and President Close noted the secretary's error in listing New Business ahead of Old Business in today's agenda. Regular order will be observed in today's meeting, considering Old Business first. Future agendas will follow regular order.

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Campus Environment
 - i. No report, meeting next week
- b. Curriculum
 - i. FSEC and Curriculum Committee chair met with Provost Usher and others to discuss formation of a task force to improve curriculum approval processes and academic program review.
- c. Faculty Issues
 - i. No report
- d. Governance
 - i. The committee consulted via email to consider and refer Motion 24-25-01
- e. Resource Allocation
 - i. No report.

VII. Old Business

none.

Motion to suspend the rules to move Motion 24-25.01 from New Business into Old Business and to move ahead of other motions. Second.

Motion passes with 2/3 majority: 42 yea—3 no—4 abstain.

24-25.01 – Motion to Revise the Department Structure of the College of Nursing
Motion passes: 41 yea—5 no—3 abstain.

VIII. New Business

- a. 24-25.01 – Motion to Revise the Department Structure of the College of Nursing

IX. Announcements

- a. ACSAT Science Expo is Friday, Sept. 6, 2:00–4:30 pm, Reed–Curie Halls and Center for the Sciences

b. Reminder: Sept. 5 and 12 are both committee meetings.

Motion to adjourn early. Second. Approved by acclamation.

X. The meeting was adjourned at 4:47pm.

[To the Table of Contents](#)

September 19, 2024

MINUTES
2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting
September 19, 2024
via Zoom videoconference

Members present:

Alyssa Archer, Jason Browning, Brian Buccola, Mike Chatham, Tara Chitwood, Eric Choate, Matt Close, Scott Dunn, Kevin Farrell, Jake Fox, Tim Fuhrer, Kim Gainer, Roofia Galeshi, Kurt Gingrich, Stephen Glass, Rhett Herman, Judy Jenks, Samuel Jennings (for J. Brummette), Jae Jeong, Naveen Joseph, Kim Lane, Bethany Lanier, Michelle Lenhart, Luke Liska, Rebecca McIntyre (for K. Baskette), Eric Mesmer, Camilla Morrison, Kereen Mullenbach, Roby Page, Tara Pelletier, Inessa Plekhanova, Geoff Pollick, Sarah Rakes, Daniel Reed, Tammy Robinson, David Sallee, Rachel Santos, Will Sawyer, Liang Shao, Judy Smith, Ryan Smith, Jake Stewart, Eftila Tanellari, Susan Van Patten, Brent Webb, Marjorie Young

Members absent:

Ian Barland, Kim Baskette (substituted by R. McIntyre), John Brummette (substituted by S. Jennings), Wendy Eckenrod-Green, Rachel Rotert

- XI. Meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by Dr. Matthew Close.
- XII. The minutes of the August 29, 2024, meeting were approved.
- XIII. University President's Report: Dr. Bret Danilowicz
 - a. Nayshon Mosley-Milford was introduced. Dr. Mosley-Milford, Dean of Student Success at Chicago State University, is an American Council on Education Fellow at Radford University for the 2024-2025 academic year.
 - b. The year's strong enrollment resulted from efforts across campus, including from faculty. Efforts will continue this year to reinforce basic operations and sustain enrollment strength.
 - c. Additional context was provided to describe the reported increase in Pell Grant-eligible students, largely in connection with a revised definition of Pell eligibility.
 - d. The University Strategic Planning process has begun. A website has been created to share developments and to solicit participation. <https://www.radford.edu/strategic-plan/index.html>. Colleagues are encouraged to participate and share perspective throughout the process.
 - e. An agreement has been reached with eight Virginia Community College System partners to approve the Tartan Transfer program. The agreement is expected to be signed in October. This will create a stronger and more stable pipeline of admissions. Colleagues are asked to contribute to efforts that will ensure our curriculum remains aligned with VCCS curricula and provide seamless transfers.
 - f. More art will appear on campus from the University's permanent collection, overseen by a new committee established to increase exhibition of the collection.
- XIV. Provost's Report: Dr. Bethany Usher
 - a. Thanks were offered to the team that planned and negotiated the Tartan Transfer program.

- b. Nayshon Mosley-Milford offered a self-introduction and was welcomed by Provost Usher.
- c. Slides were reviewed from the Academic Affairs report at the September 5, 2024, meeting of the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee of the Board of Visitors. These slides will be distributed to senators by email following the meeting.
- d. Two dean searches are planned to begin this semester, for deans of the College of Visual and Performing Arts and the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences.
 - i. The Provost will meet with the general faculty of CVPA and CHBS in October to gather perspectives relating to the searches.
 - ii. The Faculty Senate Governance Committee is collaborating with the Provost to draft language to modify §1.3.3 of the T&R Faculty Handbook, revising the composition of committees to select deans.
 - iii. The University will follow the prescribed Commonwealth bid process to select a search firm to advise the searches. It is hoped to begin work with a firm and to form search committees in late October or early November.
- e. The Registrar will update colleagues soon on a proposal to revise the Academic Calendar.
 - i. The proposal's primary goal is to align part-of-term periods with standard semester periods, to meet needs of as many as campus constituents as possible, as successfully as possible. An updated draft of the proposal is forthcoming in the next few weeks.
 - ii. The proposal will present a rolling three-year calendar plan, with incremental implementation of all changes over the initial years.
 - iii. Among the rationale for the proposal are a need to align approximately 27 different term calendars and to reduce the duration of winter break, which is reported to harm fall-to-spring retention of students.
 - iv. The proposal intends to conform to internal and external policies and will be discussed at open forums to be held at Radford and Roanoke campus locations. A questionnaire will also be distributed to collect reactions to the proposal from faculty, staff, and students. Other means of soliciting feedback from students will be implemented by Vice President Trageser.
 - v. The Academic Calendar for 2025-2026 must be approved at the Cabinet meeting of November 3.
- f. The Provost is assisting with efforts to move forward on general education improvement.
 - i. Proper alignment of general education with VCCS transfer requirements is needed.
 - ii. The process of reviewing general education in 2023-2024 identified several other areas of needed improvement.
 - iii. FSEC and the Director of Undergraduate Curriculum (DUC) submitted a proposal to the Provost to invite an external expert to facilitate a series of campus conversations to support the improvement of general education. The proposal has been approved and an agreement is under final negotiation. Dr. Jennifer Hart, Senior Scholar in the Office of Curricular, Pedagogical, and Digital Innovation of the American Association of Colleges and Universities, and Professor and Chair of the History Department at Virginia Tech, was identified by FSEC and DUC as a nearby expert in general education design and assessment, and Dr. Hart has agreed to consider serving as our external expert facilitator. Information will be shared widely about these campus conversations and the convening of a General Education Improvement Task Force as soon as the agreement is finalized.

- iv. Provost Usher was asked about planning for general education in Roanoke and reported that as long as we serve first- and second-year students in Roanoke, we will continue supporting in-person general education at that location. The long-term vision is that fewer or no first- and second-year students will enroll at the site in Roanoke. Plans remain flexible while Virginia Western Community College hires a new president.
- XV. Special Report from Assistant Provost for Faculty and Curriculum: Dr. Jessica Stowell
 - a. Dr. Stowell summarized charges, membership, and activities to date of the Curriculum Lifecycle and Process Improvement Task Force. This body is charged to review and recommend revisions to the curriculum pathways that support the creation and maintenance of a distinctive catalog of academic degree programs at Radford University. Included are the creation, modification, or deletion of courses, major/degree programs, certificates, minors, and concentrations at the undergraduate and graduate level.
 - b. An overview was provided of software system updates to Curriculog and the Catalog that will occur during the fall semester, until February 2025. These systems are not interoperable and data cannot be transferred from Curriculog into the Catalog. With support of one-time funds and the fall-semester availability of the software vendor, Modern Campus, Curriculog will come offline to be modified to connect with the Catalog. This requires alternative procedures for curricular proposal and review while the software is unavailable. Dr. Stowell has designed Qualtrics forms that will temporarily substitute for Curriculog.
 - i. During the meeting, Dr. Stowell received communication from the software vendor that a temporary version of Curriculog can be made available to receive proposals this semester. This temporary version of the software replaces the need for usage of Qualtrics in curriculum proposal and review.
- XVI. Faculty Senate President's Report: Dr. Matthew Close
 - a. Dr. Close reiterated that the proposal to invite Jennifer Hart as an expert on general education originated with FSEC, was drafted with the DUC, and was reviewed by the Provost and the Assistant Provost for Faculty and Curriculum. The proposal involves several listening sessions to be held at both the Radford and Roanoke campus sites, a professional development workshop for the general faculty, and support to advise a task force when it is elected later this semester. Dr. Hart has been invited to attend Faculty Senate on October 3 to be introduced to the colleagues and to describe her process of facilitation.
 - b. Senators Jae Jeong and Camilla Morrison have volunteered to serve as faculty representatives on the newly formed Student Success Council.
 - c. Review of concerns about the University's adoption of new style guidelines for marketing and communication, in particular on the website, will be referred to the Campus Environment Committee.
 - d. Dr. Close invited Faculty Senate Secretary Geoff Pollick to share updates about the website launch.
 - i. Dr. Pollick reported that online senate and committee rosters are now current and correct, and that senate webpages will be rolled into the new website design on a delay so that they can be converted all at once and so

that the Digital Asset Management system will accurately and securely transfer senate's digital document archive into the new system.

- ii. Dr. Pollick also reiterated that FSEC initiated the proposal to invite Dr. Hart to work with our faculty on general education, and that the series of conversations to be convened will be directed into our standard governance procedures for curricular review and revision.

XVII. Committee Reports

a. Campus Environment

- i. New charge received to review communication style guide.
- ii. Analysis of Faculty Morale Survey data has begun. A report is expected in November.
- iii. The committee is examining impacts of the 16-credit-hour rule on student learning and progression.

b. Curriculum

- i. The committee generated process improvement feedback to share with the Curriculum Lifecycle and Process Improvement Task Force.

c. Faculty Issues

- i. The committee revised and finalized its charges.
- ii. The committee has begun reviewing language regarding student evaluation of faculty for clarity.
- iii. Initial conversations have been held on potential impacts of academic calendar changes, and these are paused until updated calendar models are shared by the Registrar.

d. Governance

- i. The committee met with Provost Usher to discuss a proposal regarding composition of dean searches in the T&R Handbook.
- ii. A subcommittee has been formed to draft a proposal for revising §1.3.3, to be discussed at the next committee meeting.

e. Resource Allocation

- i. The committee finalized its charges.
- ii. The committee is gathering information for review, and will meet with Vice President Hoover and Associate Provost Mekolichick in coming weeks.

XVIII. Old Business

None.

XIX. New Business

None.

XX. Announcements

- a. Coffee with the President will occur on Friday, September 20, at 9:00 am.

Motion to adjourn, second. Adopted.

XXI. The meeting was adjourned at 4:48 pm.

[To the Table of Contents](#)

October 3, 2024

MINUTES
2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting
October 3, 2024
via Zoom videoconference

Members present:

Alyssa Archer, Ian Barland, Kim Baskette, Jason Browning, Brian Buccola (Susan Schoppelrey), Mike Chatham, Tara Chitwood, Eric Choate, Matt Close, Scott Dunn, Wendy Eckenrod-Green, Kevin Farrell, Jake Fox, Tim Fuhrer, Kim Gainer, Roofia Galeshi, Kurt Gingrich, Stephen Glass, Rhett Herman, Judy Jenks, Jae Jeong, Naveen Joseph, Kim Lane, Bethany Lanier, Michelle Lenhart, Luke Liska, Eric Mesmer, Camilla Morrison, Kereen Mullenbach, Roby Page, Tara Pelletier, Inessa Plekhanova, Geoff Pollick, Sarah Rakes, Daniel Reed, Tammy Robinson, Rachel Rotert, David Sallee, Rachel Santos, Will Sawyer, Liang Shao, Judy Smith, Ryan Smith, Jake Stewart, Eftila Tanellari, Susan Van Patten, Brent Webb, Marjorie Young

Members absent:

John Brummette

- I. Meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by Dr. Matthew Close.
- II. The minutes of the September 19, 2024, meeting were approved.
 - a. Secretary Pollick noted that future minutes will record senators as present when a substitute attends in their place.
- III. University President's Report: Dr. Bret Danilowicz
 - a. Homecoming events are planned this week.
 - b. Flooding from Hurricane Helene reached 31 feet in Radford. Several campus facilities were impacted, especially Athletics facilities. Thanks to Public Safety and to Facilities for implementing an effective preparation and response to the storm. Many students, faculty, and staff were impacted personally. Compassion and flexibility in supporting the campus community are requested.
 - c. The Academic Calendar presents two challenges in the president's view: the long duration of winter break harms retention, and the number of different calendars is excessive. The provost is overseeing review and revision of the calendar.
- IV. Provost's Report: Dr. Bethany Usher
 - a. October is a very busy time of semester. Dr. Usher expressed thanks for the hard work of colleagues.
 - b. Updates to T&R Handbook language on composing dean search committees and faculty-led efforts to review the REAL Curriculum are important and have the support of Dr. Usher.
 - c. The Academic Calendar is under review, with an aim of projecting a three-year calendar to improve planning.
 - d. Dr. Usher ceded time to University Registrar Katie Piper to describe three prospective models for revising the Academic Calendar and to describe means of receiving feedback.

- i. Registrar Piper described several priorities that are emphasized in the various calendar models: 1) implementation of three 15-week terms during each academic year; 2) two weeks of course work following Thanksgiving Break, to improve student success and engagement; 3) a one-week break between each 49-day Fast Track session; 4) ensuring an equal number of Mon-Wed-Fri class days wherever possible; 5) schedule start of Fall semester after Labor Day and start of Spring semester before Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; 6) two weeks between Summer term and Fall semester, in which to hold orientation sessions for faculty, staff, and students.
 - ii. Three proposed models were described in detail. Secretary Pollick distributed these to senators following the meeting, and they are described on the Academic Calendar Updates webpage in the Office of the Registrar, as below.
 - iii. A website is published that describes current and proposed calendars, and that provides access to an online survey through which faculty, staff, and students may convey reactions to the proposals until October 18: <https://www.radford.edu/registrar/academic-calendar-updates.html>. FAQs will be published to the webpage soon.
 - iv. Two Open Forums will be held to receive comments and feedback:
 - I. Roanoke Higher Ed Center, Room 212, October 9, 2024, 11:30am - 12:30pm
 - II. Radford Main Campus, Heth 043, October 10, 2024, 1pm - 2pm
 - III. Zoom access will be provided for both forums but in-person participation is preferred. Zoom links are provided in an email announcement.
 - e. Dr. Usher responded to questions and provided additional rationale and considerations involved in the proposed calendar models. Feedback that is received will be given serious consideration. Some components of the proposals cannot be changed, such as the start dates described above. It is not expected that any of these models will remain unchanged after feedback is received. A revised model will be shared after feedback is received and before a revised calendar is implemented. A 15-week summer term is needed to accommodate year-round programs such as some Nursing programs and the M.B.A. degree. It may be more common for summer courses to run during the 7-week summer terms. Faculty who teach in 12-month programs have frequently received no break between teaching terms in the current calendar. There is little scholarship that studies the relationship between structure of academic calendars and student success outcomes, but a few studies are available. The data from the feedback survey may be shared in summary or abstract. Colleagues are encouraged to attend Open Forums to provide additional feedback.
- V. Special Report from Faculty Senate Representative to the Strategic Planning Committee: Dr. Paul Thomas
- a. The Strategic Planning Committee has convened and begun its work.
 - b. A website has been published that will provide information about the planning process and the committee's work: <https://www.radford.edu/strategic-plan/index.html>.

- c. Dr. Thomas is serving on the Academic Excellence Subcommittee. To represent the views of faculty, he requests feedback on any academic or other consideration that colleagues would like to be represented in the committee.
 - i. Specific feedback is requested in response to the question: What does academic excellence mean, or look like, to you? Please email Dr. Thomas at pthomas15@radford.edu with responses.
 - ii. It would be most helpful to receive comments by the end of the first week of November.

VI. Faculty Senate President's Report: Dr. Matthew Close

- a. Dr. Close announced an event at Selu Conservancy: Ales, Trails, and Research Tales faculty social, October 18, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
- b. Dr. Close provided an overview of General Education Improvement 2024-2025, a faculty-led process to review the REAL Curriculum and General Education this year. The goals, expected outcomes, process, timeline, and events of this initiative will be described on a webpage under the Faculty Senate website [subsequent to the meeting, the page was published at <https://www1.radford.edu/content/faculty-senate/home/general-education-improvement.html>]. With the support of the Office of the Provost and the Director of Undergraduate Curriculum, Faculty Senate Executive Council has brought Dr. Jennifer Hart to serve as facilitator and coach. Dr. Hart is Chair and Professor of History at Virginia Tech and is a Senior Scholar emphasizing general education in the Office of Curricular, Pedagogical, and Digital Innovation at the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U). Dr. Close introduced Dr. Hart and invited her to describe her background and her interest and expertise in general education at institutions like Radford University.
- c. Dr. Jennifer Hart shared about her professional biography and background and her approach to working with institutions in processes of curriculum review. Her work as a Senior Scholar at the AAC&U follows her contributions at Wayne State University, where she helped to lead a revision of general education and then helped to implement the general education program. The program proved successful and has provided a model for gen ed assessment nationally. These efforts fostered a conviction that process and structure both matter in curricular revision, that faculty and staff both value student success, and that many paths are possible in designing program structures. The "how" (implementation) and the "what" (the structure of the program) must both be considered. A transparent and inclusive process will be followed. Colleagues are invited to contact Dr. Hart directly (jenniferhart@vt.edu) or through the Faculty Senate Executive Council or the Office of the Provost. Listening Sessions are intended to build common language. A professional development workshop will help colleagues to reflect on hard questions and begin to generate ideas together for improving the REAL Curriculum.

VII. Committee Reports

- a. Campus Environment
 - i. Working on analysis of the Faculty Morale Survey, results expected in November.
- b. Curriculum
 - i. Motion 24-25.03 is in New Business today.
- c. Faculty Issues
 - i. Met with University Registrar Katie Piper to discuss the academic calendar.

- d. Governance
 - i. Motion 24-25.02 is in New Business today.
- e. Resource Allocation
 - i. No report.

VIII. Old Business
None.

- IX. New Business
- a. Motion 24-25.02: Motion to Revise T&R Faculty Handbook on Composition of Search Committees to Select Deans
 - b. Motion to Remove the 300-level Course Requirement from the REAL Curriculum

- X. Announcements
- a. Dr. Kurt Gingrich announced a project at Clemson University, Hurricane Helene Archive, intended to document and record stories of the effects of the storm and efforts to support recovering communities. He has suggested that Radford University serve as a repository to collect text and images to document the storm's impact on Southwest Virginia. Colleagues are requested to collect materials.
<https://hurricanehelenearchive.org/>

Motion to adjourn, second. Adopted.

- XI. The meeting was adjourned at 4:47 pm.

[To the Table of Contents](#)

October 17, 2024

MINUTES
2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting
October 17, 2024
via Zoom videoconference

Members present:

Alyssa Archer, Ian Barland, Kim Baskette, Jason Browning, John Brummette, Brian Buccola, Mike Chatham, Tara Chitwood, Eric Choate, Matt Close, Scott Dunn (Sam Jennings), Wendy Eckenrod-Green, Kevin Farrell (Courtney Watson), Jake Fox, Tim Fuhrer, Kim Gainer, Roofia Galeshi, Kurt Gingrich, Stephen Glass, Rhett Herman, Judy Jenks, Jae Jeong, Naveen Joseph, Kim Lane, Bethany Lanier, Michelle Lenhart, Luke Liska, Eric Mesmer (Jay Caughron), Camilla Morrison, Kereen Mullenbach, Roby Page, Tara Pelletier, Inessa Plekhanova, Geoff Pollick, Sarah Rakes, Daniel Reed, Tammy Robinson, Rachel Rotert, David Sallee, Rachel Santos, Will Sawyer, Liang Shao, Judy Smith, Ryan Smith, Jake Stewart, Eftila Tanellari, Susan Van Patten, Brent Webb, Marjorie Young

Members absent:

- I. Meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by Dr. Matthew Close.
 - a. Secretary Pollick noted that the Faculty Senate webpages are currently being migrated into the new Content Management System and documents will be available on the pages next week after migration. Temporary links to the Agenda and Motion Book are provided in the Zoom chat area.

- II. The minutes of the October 3, 2024, meeting were approved.

- III. University President's Report: Dr. Bret Danilowicz
 - a. No report.

- IV. Provost's Report: Dr. Bethany Usher
 - a. Thanks to colleagues for supporting students through the busy month of October.
 - b. The Tartan Transfer agreement with eight community colleges will be signed at a ceremony on November 6, and presidents of the partner colleges will be on campus. We are building a seamless pathway into Radford University for transferring students, especially in this program, including advising and financial aid.
 - c. Several government officials recently have visited campus to provide support after flooding and to visit new facilities, including the governor and lieutenant governor, legislators, and soon the attorney general. Thanks to colleagues for assisting with visits and participating when requested.
 - d. Planning for the Roanoke campus site continues. An October 25 meeting with colleagues in Roanoke has been announced, to discuss and receive feedback on programming and facilities there. This is an update meeting, not a major decision-making point, and further updates will follow. The goal is to discuss enrollment patterns, potential changes to grow upper-division undergraduate and graduate enrollment, and considerations of name, brand, and identity.
 - e. The Curriculum Lifecycle and Process Improvement task force has begun its work to streamline and clarify curriculum approval pathways to better align with tools in

Curriculog and make processes straightforward. The project with the software vendor Modern Campus to integrate Curriculog changes into the Catalog has begun and is projected to run for 18 weeks. The University Registrar has made accommodations to ensure that faculty can continue submitting and tracking proposals in Curriculog during the software update project.

- f. Two dean searches are currently in process, for CVPA and CHBS deans. The Provost met with faculty in both colleges to receive input, and a contract has been set with Buffkin/Baker to assist with search, recruitment, and hiring. Position briefs are being developed and committees should be empaneled soon.
 - g. The academic calendar survey closes Friday. Meetings were held with T&R faculty, AP faculty, and SGA. Student feedback is being received at both campus sites. The Provost's office is assembling data and will respond with a modified calendar by next the senate meeting on October 31, when they will share a penultimate version of the calendar. The Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Improvement will analyze data received in the survey, conducting a text analysis of narrative responses. Reporting on feedback will occur in late October.
 - h. The fall Dance Festival will be held tonight and tomorrow night in the new main stage theatre in the Artis Center.
 - i. The first Fall Open House will be held this Saturday.
 - j. *New York Times* columnist Frank Bruni will be speaking on campus to address themes in his recent book, *The Age of Grievance* (Avid Reader press, 2024), on Wednesday, Oct. 23, 7 PM, in the Artis Center main stage theatre. Colleagues and students are invited and encouraged to attend.
- V. Special Report on Week 1 and Week 5 Progress Surveys from Dr. Jerel Benton and Susan Hudson
- a. Report on First-Week Attendance:
 - i. 77% of instructors completed the First-Week Attendance Report.
 - ii. 553 "did not attend" alerts were received, for 431 individual students.
 - iii. 92% of students had only reports of "attended."
 - iv. 24 urgent concerns and 37 priority concerns were raised through the report.
 - v. 9 students were removed before the census date and 6 were removed after.
 - b. Report on Week 5–6 Progress:
 - i. 79% of instructors for 100- and 200-level courses complete the report.
 - ii. 3,339 students received "kudos."
 - iii. 1,980 performance flags were raised for 1,237 individual students.
 - iv. 357 students have been referred to campus support services.
 - v. Students who received two or more flags received additional outreach, including 363 phone calls completed by retention staff, 235 contacts by advisors and coordinators, and 24 contact by staff at RUC. 129 students answered these phone calls.
- VI. Faculty Senate President's Report: Dr. Matthew Close
- a. Dr. Close reminded colleagues of the Ales, Trails, and Research Trails event at Selu Conservancy on Friday at 4:30 PM.
 - b. Discussions are underway to implement the COACHE Survey.
 - c. Dr. Close invited Dr. Geoff Pollick to provide an update on the General Education Improvement project.
 - i. Four Listening Sessions have been completed, two with faculty and staff at the Radford site, one with faculty and staff at the Roanoke site, and one with

Academic Advisors at the Radford site. Summaries of the observations and preferences raised in these sessions will be published to the Faculty Senate Gen Ed Improvement webpage soon.

- ii. 170 responses have been received to the feedback questionnaire, with approximately 100 from students. Responses are being accepted until November 11 and will be reported through the Gen Ed webpage.
- iii. Colleagues are invited and encouraged to attend the General Education Professional Development Workshop, on November 11, 10:00–11:30 AM, in Kyle Hall room 340. The workshop will be simulcast to a location at the Roanoke site so that colleagues in Roanoke can attend and participate remotely. An invitation and details will be shared in the next two weeks.

VII. Committee Reports

- a. Campus Environment
 - i. Faculty Morale Survey analysis is in process.
- b. Curriculum
 - i. Discussed responses to the proposed academic calendar revision.
 - ii. Discussed proposed updates to curriculum approval pathways that are under consideration by the Curriculum Lifecycle and Process Improvement task force.
- c. Faculty Issues
 - i. Two motions in New Business.
- d. Governance
 - i. Motion in Old Business.
- e. Resource Allocation
 - i. Met with Vice President Hoover.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Motion 24-25.02: Motion to Revise T&R Faculty Handbook on Composition of Search Committees to Select Deans
Motion to amend. Seconded. Motion to amend passed 43 yea, 2 no, 4 abstain

Motion to Suspend the Rules to Extend Time to 4:55 PM. Seconded. Motion passed 39 yea, 4 no, 6 abstain

Motion 24-25.02 passed 31 yea, 13 no, 5 abstain

- b. Motion 24-25.03: Motion to Remove Upper-level Course Requirements from the REAL Curriculum
Time expired before the Motion was introduced. Motion tabled until next meeting.

IX. New Business

- a. Motion 24-25.04: Motion concerning Proposed Changes to the Academic Calendar
- b. Motion 24-25.05: Motion to Revise T&R Faculty Handbook on Evaluation Procedures for Tenured Faculty

X. Announcements

- XI. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.

[To the Table of Contents](#)

October 31, 2024

MINUTES
2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting
October 31, 2024
via Zoom videoconference

Members present:

Alyssa Archer, Ian Barland, Kim Baskette, Jason Browning, John Brummette, Brian Buccola (Susan Schoppelrey), Mike Chatham, Tara Chitwood, Eric Choate, Matt Close, J. C. Cook, Scott Dunn, Wendy Eckenrod-Green, Kevin Farrell, Jake Fox, Tim Fuhrer, Kim Gainer, Roofia Galeshi, Kurt Gingrich, Stephen Glass, Rhett Herman, Jae Jeong, Naveen Joseph, Kim Lane, Bethany Lanier, Michelle Lenhart, Luke Liska, Eric Mesmer, Camilla Morrison, Kereen Mullenbach, Roby Page, Tara Pelletier, Inessa Plekhanova, Geoff Pollick, Sarah Rakes, Daniel Reed, Tammy Robinson, Rachel Rotert, David Sallee, Rachel Santos, Will Sawyer, Liang Shao, Judy Smith, Ryan Smith, Jake Stewart, Eftila Tanellari, Susan Van Patten, Brent Webb, Marjorie Young (Jayme Haynes)

Members absent:

Judy Jenks

- I. Meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by Dr. Matthew Close.
- II. The minutes of the October 17, 2024, meeting were approved as amended.
- III. University President's Report: Dr. Bret Danilowicz
 - a. Following this year's enrollment increase, new-student deposits for Spring 2025 are nearly double those of last year, and applications, including completed applications, are also trending higher than last year.
 - b. Conversations about work-based learning and experiences are increasing at Commonwealth institutions. The President will be working with the Provost and Deans to improve our methods and means of offerings such experiences. Two items of clarification relating to internships:
 - i. Students *can* receive course credit and monetary compensation simultaneously.
 - ii. Internships can occur at any time of the year and are not restricted only to summer periods, depending on curricular structures of particular courses and programs.
 - c. A project-based institutional improvement process is followed at Radford University in which:
 - i. Leaders share a proposed model with stakeholders.
 - ii. Feedback is sought and received to modify the model, which is subsequently implemented.
 - iii. Approval by vote of stakeholders is not always included.
 - iv. Leaders respond to stakeholder feedback meaningfully and to their best ability, within time constraints and as appropriate to the project.
- IV. Provost's Report: Dr. Bethany Usher

- a. All members of the Radford University community can access an institutional subscription to the *New York Times*, access that is provided by Radford University Libraries to increase student civic literacy. See “New York Times Academic Pass” at <https://libguides.radford.edu/az/databases?a=n>.
 - b. The Tartan Transfer agreement-signing with community college presidents will occur on November 6. Kudos to Nicole Hendrix, who contributed greatly to planning and crafting the agreement.
 - c. The Provost shared perspective on the proposal to modify the requirements for upper-level courses in the REAL Curriculum.
 - d. The Provost invited University Registrar Katie Piper and Research Associate in Institutional Effectiveness Jonathan Renz to share results and analysis of the feedback survey on the proposed academic calendar and the modified proposal brought in response. Kudos to Melanie Fox, Katie Piper, Jonathan Renz and Jessica Stowell for conducting this analysis and reworking the calendar model in response.
 - i. Katie Piper and Jonathan Renz reported on the survey:
 - 1. 2,679 submissions were received, of which 75.9% were submitted by students.
 - 2. Two open forums were held, in addition to visits to T&R Faculty Senate, AP Faculty Senate, and Student Senate, as well as student response boards posted in the Bonnie and at RUC.
 - 3. From these responses, several calendar features were determined, such as Fall semester start before Labor Day; Spring semester start before MLK Jr. day; 14-week summer term with shorter break between 7-week terms to accommodate earlier Fall start; Thanksgiving full week break with classes; among others.
 - 4. A quantitative breakdown of survey respondent groupings and summary of responses was provided.
 - 5. A qualitative summary of responses was provided.
 - 6. The finalized academic calendar model was presented.
 - e. The Provost responded to questions regarding the finalized calendar model.
- V. Faculty Senate President’s Report: Dr. Matthew Close
- a. Dr. Close reminded colleagues of the General Education Professional Development Workshop, scheduled for November 11, 2024, and requested RSVP by November 8.
 - b. Dr. Close reminded colleagues of the timeline planned for the Faculty Senate project, General Education Improvement 2024-2025 <https://www.radford.edu/faculty-senate/gen-ed-improvement.html>.
 - c. Dr. Close reminded colleagues that nominations will close on November 1 at 8:00 a.m. for external faculty-member representatives for the search committees to select deans of CHBS and CVPA.
 - d. During Old Business, in discussion of Motion 24-25.04, non-T&R Faculty attendees will be asked to remain in a separate breakout room.
- VI. Committee Reports
- a. Campus Environment
 - i. Faculty Morale Survey analysis is in process.
 - ii. Discussed Associated Press style guidelines for referring to professional titles and determined there is no issue.
 - b. Curriculum

- i. Discussed responses to the proposed academic calendar revision.
 - ii. Discussed proposed updates to curriculum approval pathways that are under consideration by the Curriculum Lifecycle and Process Improvement task force.
 - c. Faculty Issues
 - i. Working on handbook language regarding student evaluation of faculty to match current process and practice. A motion is forthcoming.
 - d. Governance
 - i. Dr. Close attended the last meeting to clarify the committee charges.
 - ii. Dr. Jessica Stowell will attend the next meeting of the committee.
 - e. Resource Allocation
 - i. No report.
- VII. Old Business
 - a. Motion 24-25.03: Motion to Remove Upper-level Course Requirements from the REAL Curriculum

Motion 24-25.03 failed 14 yea, 30 no, 5 abstain
 - b. Motion 24-25.04: Motion concerning Proposed Changes to the Academic Calendar

Motion to Suspend the Rules to Extend Time to 5:00 PM. Seconded. Motion failed 19 yea, 22 no, 8 abstain

Time expired before discussion on Motion 24-25.04 concluded. Motion tabled until next meeting.
 - c. Motion 24-25.05: Motion to Revise T&R Faculty Handbook on Evaluation Procedures for Tenured Faculty

Time expired before Motion 24-25.05 was introduced. Motion tabled until next meeting.
- VIII. New Business
 - a. None
- IX. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.

[To the Table of Contents](#)

November 14, 2024

MINUTES
2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting
November 14, 2024
via Zoom videoconference

Members present:

Alyssa Archer (Barbara Tait), Ian Barland, Kim Baskette, Jason Browning, John Brummette, Brian Buccola, Mike Chatham, Tara Chitwood, Eric Choate, Matt Close, Scott Dunn, Kevin Farrell, Jake Fox, Tim Fuhrer, Kim Gainer, Roofia Galeshi, Kurt Gingrich, Stephen Glass, Rhett Herman, Judy Jenks, Jae Jeong, Naveen Joseph, Kim Lane, Michelle Lenhart, Luke Liska, Eric Mesmer, Camilla Morrison, Kereen Mullenbach, Roby Page, Tara Pelletier, Inessa Plekhanova, Geoff Pollick, Sarah Rakes, Daniel Reed, Tammy Robinson, Rachel Rotert, David Sallee, Rachel Santos, Will Sawyer, Liang Shao, Judy Smith, Ryan Smith, Jake Stewart, Eftila Tanellari, Susan Van Patten, Brent Webb, Marjorie Young

Members absent:

Wendy Eckenrod-Green, Bethany Lanier, Liang Shao

- I. Meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by Dr. Matthew Close.
- II. The minutes of the October 31, 2024, meeting were approved as submitted.
- III. University President's Report: Dr. Bret Danilowicz
 - a. Thank you to faculty for participating in the November 7 forums to provide feedback on the Strategic Plan. An online survey has been shared through which additional feedback can be submitted.
 - b. Enrollment projections remain strong for spring and fall 2025, both showing improvement over last year at this time.
 - c. New requirements for reporting levels of internship participation are expected and will be communicated as details become known.
- IV. Provost's Report: Dr. Bethany Usher
 - a. Many groups and individuals are contributing to efforts to update processes and policies as leadership stabilizes. Kudos to Dr. Close for leading Faculty Senate's participation in these efforts.
 - b. Provost Usher met with Roanoke-based faculty on November 13, to provide an update on planning for programs and facilities in Roanoke.
 - c. Colleagues are reminded to complete FERPA training by the December 6 deadline.
 - d. A new policy on overload compensation is in final drafting and will be shared when it has been finalized and approved.
- V. Faculty Senate President's Report: Dr. Matthew Close
 - a. A reminder was reiterated to complete required safety training by November 15 and FERPA training by December 6.
 - b. Student applications for Advocacy Day 2025 are due November 17.
<https://radford.presence.io/form/2025-advocacy-day-application>. Faculty

members can also participate in Advocacy Day on January 9, 2025, through the Faculty Senate of Virginia. FSVA can offset some travel expense. Contact FSVA secretary for details: <https://facultysenateofvirginia.org/>.

- c. The [General Education Improvement 2024-2025](#) project is continuing, with nominations open until November 20 for one representative per college and one Roanoke-based representative to be elected to the General Education Improvement Task Force, which will convene before the Fall 2024 semester concludes. Elections will conclude by November 22 and are being administered by the deans of each college. Nominations should be made to the dean of each college.

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Campus Environment
 - i. No report.
- b. Curriculum
 - i. Discussed handbook impacts from calendar changes to final exams.
- c. Faculty Issues
 - i. Met with Mel Fox and Jonathan Renz to discuss improvements to student evaluations of faculty.
- d. Governance
 - i. Met with Jessica Stowell to discuss assessment of programs not housed in departments.
- e. Resource Allocation
 - i. Made progress in completing two charges and beginning work on additional charges.

VII. Old Business

- a. Motion 24-25.04: Motion concerning Proposed Changes to the Academic Calendar

Motion 24-25.04 passed 40 yea, 5 no, 2 abstain

- b. Motion 24-25.05: Motion to Revise T&R Faculty Handbook on Evaluation Procedures for Tenured Faculty

Motion to amend to revise handbook Section 1.4.1.6 in addition to Section 1.4.1.4.1 Subsection 3. Second. Amendment passed 44 yea, 1 no, 2 abstain

Motion 24-25.05 failed 18 yea, 27 no, 2 abstain

VIII. New Business

- a. None

Motion to adjourn. Second. Passed by acclamation.

- IX. The meeting was adjourned at 4:46 pm.

[To the Table of Contents](#)

December 5, 2024

MINUTES
2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting
December 5, 2024
via Zoom videoconference

Members present:

Alyssa Archer, Ian Barland, Kim Baskette, Jason Browning, John Brummette, Elliot Carhart, Mike Chatham, Tara Chitwood, Eric Choate, Matt Close, Scott Dunn, Wendy Eckenrod-Green, Kevin Farrell, Jake Fox, Tim Fuhrer, Kim Gainer, Roofia Galeshi, Kurt Gingrich, Stephen Glass, Rhett Herman, Judy Jenks, Jae Jeong, Naveen Joseph, Kim Lane, Bethany Lanier, Michelle Lenhart, Luke Liska, Eric Mesmer, Camilla Morrison, Kereen Mullenbach, Roby Page, Tara Pelletier, Inessa Plekhanova, Geoff Pollick, Sarah Rakes, Daniel Reed, Tammy Robinson, Rachel Rotert, Rachel Santos, Will Sawyer, Judy Smith, Ryan Smith, Jake Stewart, Eftila Tanellari, Susan Van Patten, Brent Webb, Marjorie Young

Members absent:

Brian Buccola, David Sallee, Liang Shao

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Dr. Matthew Close.
- II. The minutes of the November 14, 2024, meeting were approved as submitted.
- III. University President's Report: Dr. Bret Danilowicz
 - a. No report.
- IV. Provost's Report: Dr. Bethany Usher
 - a. The Board of Visitors Executive Committee met for breakfast with the Faculty Senate Executive Council, President Danilowicz, and Provost Usher today. Provost Usher thanked President Close and members of FSEC for a productive discussion.
 - b. The Board of Visitors Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee approved the recommended changes from Faculty Senate Motion 24-25.02: Motion to Revise T&R Faculty Handbook on Search Committees to Select Deans. The item will be considered by the Board of Visitors in their agenda tomorrow.
 - c. Provost Usher and Registrar Piper met with Student Government Association to discuss the finalized revision of the academic calendar. Provost Usher invited feedback from faculty senators regarding the academic calendar.
 - d. Provost Usher thanked faculty members who have agreed to serve on dean search committees for CVPA and CHBS and the General Education Improvement Task Force.
 - e. Provost Usher encouraged colleagues to participate in end-of-semester commencement and student-recognition ceremonies, as appropriate to the programs in which they are appointed.
 - f. Provost Usher addressed questions about the revised academic calendar and about the timeline and process for dean searches.
- V. Faculty Senate President's Report: Dr. Matthew Close

- a. President Close encouraged colleagues to attend tomorrow’s Board of Visitors meeting, as schedules permit, and summarized his report of today to the Board of Visitors Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee.
 - b. President Close thanked all colleagues who participated in the nomination and election process to select the General Education Improvement Task Force and reminded colleagues of the task force’s timeline and the importance of their tasks.
 - c. President Close addressed questions relating to responses from Provost Usher to Motion 24-25.04: Motion concerning Proposed Changes to the Academic Calendar.
 - d. The deadline to complete required FERPA training is December 6, which is also the deadline to complete the academic advising survey.
- VI. Committee Reports
- a. Campus Environment
 - 1. No report.
 - b. Curriculum
 - 1. Two motions in New Business.
 - c. Faculty Issues
 - 1. Planned charges for spring 2025: will look at faculty appeals process to ensure alignment between the handbook and the IG document and will review handbook language on department personnel committees.
 - d. Governance
 - 1. Reviewing new software and procedures for conducting assessment and will review alignment of language in IG documents and the T&R Faculty Handbook.
 - e. Resource Allocation
 - 1. Attended the Business Affairs and Audit Committee of the Board of Visitors to monitor budgetary reports. Budget reductions are not planned for the upcoming budget planning cycle.
- VII. Old Business
- a. None.
- VIII. New Business
- a. Motion 24-25.06 Motion to Create the New Course CLEA 480 Citizen Leader: Special Topics
 - b. Motion 24-25.07 Motion to Create the New Course CLEA 498 Citizen Leader: Independent Study
- IX. Announcements
- a. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service is planned for Monday, January 20. Many service opportunities will be available for faculty, staff, and students. Please watch for calls for participation.
- Motion to adjourn. Second. Passed by acclamation.
- X. The meeting was adjourned at 4:11 pm.

[To the Table of Contents](#)

January 23, 2025

MINUTES
2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting
January 23, 2025
via Zoom videoconference

Members present:

Alyssa Archer, Ian Barland, Kim Baskette, John Brummette, Brian Buccola, Elliot Carhart, Mike Chatham, Eric Choate, Matt Close, Scott Dunn, Kevin Farrell, Jake Fox, Kim Gainer, Roofia Galeshi, Kurt Gingrich, Stephen Glass, Rhett Herman, Judy Jenks, Jae Jeong, Naveen Joseph, Sarah Kennedy, Kim Lane, Michelle Lenhart, Luke Liska, Eric Mesmer, Camilla Morrison, Kereen Mullenbach, Roby Page, Tara Pelletier, Inessa Plekhanova, Geoff Pollick, Sarah Rakes, Daniel Reed, Tara Riddle, Tammy Robinson, Rachel Rotert, David Sallee, Carrie Sanders, Rachel Santos, Will Sawyer, Liang Shao, Judy Smith, Ryan Smith, Jake Stewart, Eftila Tanellari, Susan Van Patten, Brent Webb, Marjorie Young

Members absent:

Tara Chitwood, Wendy Eckenrod-Green

- I. Meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by Dr. Matthew Close.
- II. The minutes of the December 5, 2024, meeting were approved as submitted.
- III. University President's Report: Dr. Bret Danilowicz
 - a. Fall-to-Spring retention has improved and is approximately 90% for new freshmen.
 - b. The General Education Improvement process is underway, and the President looks forward to the results of the task force's work.
 - c. Overall enrollment for Spring 2025 is improved over Spring 2024, with approximately 90 more new students and approximately 460 more students overall compared to Spring 2024, resulting largely from improved retention.
 - d. Admissions deposits currently show a modest increase, year-over-year.
 - e. The President charged an Experiential Learning Task Force on January 22, better to align employment of students on campus with internship experiences and to scale work-based learning for students.
 - f. The President is at work advocating for University legislative priorities with the General Assembly, emphasizing budgetary support for a new building in Roanoke and funds to support faculty hiring in Nursing.
- IV. Provost's Report: Dr. Bethany Usher
 - a. No report.
- V. Special Report on General Education Improvement and the Citizen Leader Program: Dr. David Beach, Chair of the General Education Improvement Task Force and Director of Undergraduate Curriculum
 - a. Dr. Beach summarized the work of the General Education Improvement Task Force since its December 16, 2024, charge meeting. The work of the task force is

described on a dedicated webpage of the Faculty Senate website, where updates are posted at the end of the webpage: <https://www.radford.edu/faculty-senate/gen-ed-improvement.html>

- b. The task force has prepared a draft structure for revising General Education and is seeking feedback on it from faculty and others across campus. A Qualtrics survey has been distributed widely to collect feedback on the draft structure. The draft structure is published at <https://www.radford.edu/faculty-senate/documents/task-force/gen-ed-draft-structure.pdf>.
- c. The task force has prepared a draft assessment architecture, which is available at https://www.radford.edu/faculty-senate/_documents/task-force/assessment-architecture-draft-2025.pdf.
- d. The task force will meet on January 27 to discuss a draft implementation timeline and to discuss considerations relating to transfer students.
- e. Additional updates will be announced in the *Threads* email newsletter.
- f. The task force plans to bring its complete recommendations to Faculty Senate by the February 21, 2025, deadline specified in its charge.
- g. Dr. Beach discussed upcoming changes to the Citizen Leader Program, which will begin review by an advisory board and faculty in coming weeks. The program may realign in connection with several recently awarded and in-process grants that address themes related to Citizen Leader.

VI. Faculty Senate President's Report: Dr. Matthew Close

- a. FSEC met with Provost Usher on December 19, 2024, to discuss concerns and issues raised by senators in relation to the revised academic calendar. Provost Usher responded, in part, through a message published in the January 13, 2025, edition of the *Threads* email newsletter.
- b. Faculty Senate of Virginia's legislative advocacy day was canceled in 2025 due to water-system problems in Richmond that disrupted the meeting of the General Assembly. FSEC has received FSVA position papers that describe their legislative priorities. Faculty members can request the position papers from FSEC.
- c. Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship stipends have increased for students and faculty. Applications are due February 19.

VII. Committee Reports

- a. Campus Environment
 - i. No report.
- b. Curriculum
 - i. Two motions in Old Business.
 - ii. Chair is attending a working group on final-exam scheduling and will report to senate when an update is available.
- c. Faculty Issues
 - i. No report.
- d. Governance
 - i. No report.
- e. Resource Allocation
 - i. A committee member met with the Vice President for Finance and Administration to discuss plans for the University Planning and Budget Advisory Committee.

- ii. The committee will next meet with the Vice President for Economic Development and Corporate Education.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Motion 24-25.06 Motion to Create the New Course CLEA 480 Citizen Leader: Special Topics

Motion to postpone definitely until the meeting of February 20, 2025. Second. Motion passes: 44 yea—1 no—2 abstain.

- b. Motion 24-25.07 Motion to Create the New Course CLEA 498 Citizen Leader: Independent Study

Motion to postpone definitely until the meeting of February 20, 2025. Second. Motion passes: 42 yea—1 no—4 abstain.

IX. New Business

- a. Motion 24-25.08 Motion to Revise T&R Faculty Handbook on Term Limits for Chairs and Directors

Motion to adjourn. Second. Passed by acclamation.

- X. The meeting was adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

[To the Table of Contents](#)

February 6, 2025

MINUTES
2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting
February 6, 2025
via Zoom videoconference

Members present:

Alyssa Archer, Ian Barland, Kim Baskette, Brian Buccola, Elliot Carhart, Mike Chatham, Tara Chitwood, Eric Choate, Matt Close, Scott Dunn, Kevin Farrell, Jake Fox, Kim Gainer, Roofia Galeshi, Kurt Gingrich, Stephen Glass, Rhett Herman, Judy Jenks, Jae Jeong, Naveen Joseph, Sarah Kennedy, Kim Lane, Michelle Lenhart, Luke Liska, Eric Mesmer, Camilla Morrison, Kereen Mullenbach, Roby Page, Tara Pelletier, Inessa Plekhanova, Geoff Pollick, Sarah Rakes, Daniel Reed, Tara Riddle, Tammy Robinson, Rachel Rotert, David Sallee, Carrie Sanders, Rachel Santos, Will Sawyer, Liang Shao, Judy Smith, Ryan Smith, Jake Stewart, Eftila Tanellari, Susan Van Patten, Brent Webb, Marjorie Young

Members absent:

John Brummette, Wendy Eckenrod-Green

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Dr. Matthew Close.
- II. The minutes of the January 23, 2025, meeting were approved as amended.
 - a. January 23 minutes were corrected to note Senator Carrie Sanders as present, assuming Senator Bethany Lanier's seat for the Department of Counselor Education.
- III. University President's Report: Dr. Bret Danilowicz
 - a. In the context of new political leadership and changes in policy, Radford University remains a tight-knit and inclusive community that cares for one another. We will adhere to our core values as an institution and support one another as a small community.
 - b. The University's two main legislative priorities of planning funds for a Roanoke building and additional support for Nursing faculty continue to develop as the legislature passes the crossover phase in budgeting. President Danilowicz will return to Richmond next week to continue advocacy for the University.
- IV. Provost's Report: Dr. Bethany Usher
 - a. Provost Usher reported while representing Radford University at the inaugural Undergraduate Research Showcase of the Network for Undergraduate Research in Virginia (NURVa), hosted at the House of Delegates in Richmond.
 - b. Radford University will adhere to its core values when responding to any changes in resources or requirements.
 - c. Enrollment census this semester demonstrates the effects of strong retention rates.
 - d. An interruption of the Curriculum curriculum software system's availability is coming in March, to be described in the Faculty Senate President's report, below.
 - e. Kudos to the General Education Improvement Task Force, whose work will be reported soon. If Faculty Senate can approve the broad strokes of an updated model this year, then the Provost will support its detailed implementation needs next year.

- V. Special Report on Enrollment Management and Strategic Communications: Dr. Dannette Gomez Beane, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Strategic Communications
 - a. Vice President Beane reported on the new website rollout, monitoring and strategic planning of the new marketing program, and current and expected enrollment patterns.
 - b. Senators received the slide deck of the report via email.
 - c. Faculty are encouraged to attend the annual Enrollment Forum on February 19, 2025, 3:00–4:00 p.m., during which this information will be discussed in greater detail.

- VI. Special Report on Academic Advising Survey: Dr. Jerel Benton, Assistant Provost for Student Success
 - a. Assistant Provost Benton reported on the status of the Enhanced Academic Advising Project that aims to streamline and enhance advising processes, clarify roles and responsibilities, enhance support for upper-class students, expand professional development opportunities, and improve technology.
 - b. All T&R faculty received the complete academic advising report via email from President Close.

- VII. Faculty Senate President’s Report: Dr. Matthew Close
 - a. President Close invited Dr. Jessica Stowell, Assistant Provost for Faculty and Curriculum, to announce a change in the availability of the Curriculog curriculum software system. The vendor who is assisting with integration of Curriculog into the Catalog has requested to take the system’s forms function offline to work on backend development. Curriculum proposals to be entered in the 2025-2026 Catalog must be launched by March 1. Placeholder proposals can be launched by that date and edited subsequently.
 - b. Radford University will once again participate in the survey of the Collaborative on Academic Careers in Higher Education (COACHE), implemented by the Harvard Graduate School of Education. The survey will launch on February 7. Faculty will receive an email invitation from Harvard University.
 - c. The General Education Improvement Task Force will meet next on February 10 and then will conduct town-hall meetings in each College during February 12-19. An updated Draft Implementation Process was published on February 3, available at <https://www.radford.edu/faculty-senate/documents/task-force/implementation-process-revised-draft-gened-improvement.pdf>. The final task-force meeting will occur on February 20 before delivering their recommendations to FSEC and the Office of the Provost on February 21. Please encourage colleagues to share feedback with the task force before their work concludes at their February 20 meeting.
 - d. The Selu Conservancy will host a Spring Faculty Social at the facility on February 28, 4:00–6:00 p.m. An RSVP link was sent in the January 31 *Connected* email newsletter.

- VIII. Committee Reports
 - a. Campus Environment
 - i. Finishing analysis of Faculty Morale Survey, with results expected by end of February.
 - b. Curriculum
 - i. Reviewing Handbook language impacted by changes to scheduling final exams.
 - c. Faculty Issues
 - i. Continuing to review Handbook language on student evaluation of faculty.
 - d. Governance

- i. Met with Melanie Fox, Director of Academic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness, to review assessment processes for non-degree-granting units. A report is expected from Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Improvement in August and further consideration by the committee will be recommended for the 2025-2026 Faculty Senate.
 - ii. Two motions in New Business.
 - e. Resource Allocation
 - i. Met with Vice President for Economic Development and Corporate Education and will report, following further discussion.

IX. Old Business

- a. *Postponed definitely, until meeting of February 20:* Motion 24-25.06 Motion to Create the New Course CLEA 480 Citizen Leader: Special Topics
- b. *Postponed definitely, until meeting of February 20:* Motion 24-25.07 Motion to Create the New Course CLEA 498 Citizen Leader: Independent Study
- c. Motion 24-25.08 Motion to Revise T&R Faculty Handbook on Term Limits for Chairs and Directors

Time expired during discussion of the motion. Discussion of the motion will resume during Old Business at the next meeting.

X. New Business

- a. Motion 24-25.09 Motion to Update the Membership of the Faculty Appeals Committee as described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*
- b. Motion 24-25.10 Motion to Update the Membership of the Faculty Grievance Committee as described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*

XI. Announcements

- a. None.

XII. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

[To the Table of Contents](#)

February 20, 2025

MINUTES
2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting
February 20, 2025
via Zoom videoconference

Members present:

Alyssa Archer, Ian Barland, Kim Baskette, John Brummette, Brian Buccola (Patricia Airey), Elliot Carhart (Chad Poulsen), Mike Chatham, Tara Chitwood, Eric Choate, Matt Close, Scott Dunn (Michael Meindl), Kevin Farrell, Jake Fox, Kim Gainer, Roofia Galeshi, Kurt Gingrich, Stephen Glass, Rhett Herman, Judy Jenks, Jae Jeong, Naveen Joseph, Sarah Kennedy, Kim Lane, Michelle Lenhart, Luke Liska, Eric Mesmer, Camilla Morrison, Kereen Mullenbach, Roby Page, Tara Pelletier, Inessa Plekhanova, Geoff Pollick, Sarah Rakes, Daniel Reed, Tara Riddle, Tammy Robinson, Rachel Rotert, David Sallee, Carrie Sanders, Rachel Santos, Will Sawyer, Liang Shao, Judy Smith, Ryan Smith, Jake Stewart, Eftila Tanellari, Susan Van Patten, Brent Webb, Marjorie Young

Members absent:

Wendy Eckenrod-Green

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Dr. Matthew Close.
- II. The minutes of the February 6, 2025, meeting were approved by acclamation.
- III. University President's Report: Dr. Bret Danilowicz
 - a. President Danilowicz expressed thanks to the General Education Improvement Task Force for the hard work they have contributed in completing their charges, which will conclude within one week. Students have communicated feedback to the president that they support updating the REAL Curriculum.
 - b. The Department of Education "dear colleague" letter of last Friday was received by University leadership, who has sought further guidance from the Virginia Attorney General's office before implementing any changes.
- IV. Provost's Report: Dr. Bethany Usher
 - a. Provost Usher reiterated President Danilowicz's announcement of seeking direction before acting in response to the Department of Education letter.
 - b. University leadership is evaluating the expected impact of reduction in the federal indirect cost rate for some grant-funded initiatives.
 - c. To adjust for three days of weather closing since February 12, deans have been requested to coordinate the planning of a make-up activity or assignment in courses that missed instructional days.
 - d. As the recommendations of the General Education Improvement Task Force will soon be received by Faculty Senate and the Office of the Provost, Academic Affairs budget planning for the coming two years will include direct support for planning and implementing any recommendations that Faculty Senate approves.
- V. Faculty Senate President's Report: Dr. Matthew Close

- a. President Close reminded colleagues to [RSVP](#) for the Spring Faculty Social at Selu Conservancy, Friday, February 28, 4:00–6:00 PM.
- b. Curricular proposals to be reviewed through the Curriculog system must be started before March 1, and can be edited and completed after that date.
- c. The General Education Improvement Task Force’s final activities have been delayed from weather closings, but their recommendations will be submitted no later than one week following the planned February 21 deadline. The town hall meeting for CHBS is rescheduled to Monday, February 24, 2:00–4:00 p.m., and the task force will hold a final meeting thereafter to develop revised recommendations before submitting them to Faculty Senate and the Provost by February 28.
- d. The University Internal Governance Review Committee will soon convene, and three tenured faculty members will be appointed by the Faculty Senate Executive Council to serve on the committee, as described in [Overview of Shared Governance at Radford University](#).

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Campus Environment
 - 1. Discussed issue of immunization requirement for students and will continue discussion.
 - 2. Faculty Morale Survey analysis will be complete soon.
 - 3. Reminder to faculty to complete the COACHE Survey, due sometime in April.
- b. Curriculum
 - 1. Motion in New Business.
- c. Faculty Issues
 - 1. Met with Dr. Brett Taylor to discuss a potential motion on evaluation of chairs and directors that is submitted by the Leadership Team of ACSAT.
- d. Governance
 - 1. Two motions in old business, amendments to be proposed for both.
 - 2. Continued discussion of IEQI considerations relating to assessment.
- e. Resource Allocation
 - 1. No report.

VII. Old Business

- a. Motion 24-25.08 Motion to Revise T&R Faculty Handbook on Term Limits for Chairs and Directors

Motion 24-25.08 failed, 4 yea, 37 no, 4 abstain

- b. Motion 24-25.06: Motion to Create the New Course CLEA 480 Citizen Leader: Special Topics

Motion 24-25.06 failed, 1 yea, 41 no, 1 abstain

- c. Motion 24-25.07: Motion to Create the New Course CLEA 498 Citizen Leader: Independent Study

Motion 24-25.07 failed, 2 yea, 37 no, 4 abstain

- d. Motion 24-25.09: Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the Faculty Appeals Committee as described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*

Motion to Amend, adding “two at-large members selected by the Faculty Senate Executive Council (taking into account representation of Roanoke-based faculty and faculty who primarily teach graduate classes).” Second.

Motion to Amend, adding “tenured” after “two.” Second. Amendment passed, 40 yea, 3 no, 1 abstain

Motion to Amend, striking parenthetical text. Second. Amendment passed, 43, 1 no, 1 no

Motion to suspend the rules and extend the meeting until such time as discussion on Motion 24-25.09 has concluded. Second. Motion passed, 30 yea, 15 no, 0 abstain.

Motion to Amend passed as amended, 39 yea, 1 no, 2 abstain

The meeting’s Zoom connection was interrupted for some senators at 5:08 p.m., including the president and secretary. Discussion continued. The president, secretary, and other senators rejoined the meeting, which resumed with quorum.

Motion 24-25.09 passed as amended, 37 yea, 0 no, 1 abstain

- e. 24-25.10: Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the Faculty Grievance Committee as described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*.

VIII. New Business

- a. Motion 24-25.11: Motion to Create the Master of Science in Clinical Psychology

IX. Announcements

- a. None.

- X. The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

[To the Table of Contents](#)

March 6, 2025

MINUTES
2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting
March 6, 2025
via Zoom videoconference

Members present:

Alyssa Archer, Kim Baskette, Brian Buccola, Elliot Carhart, Mike Chatham, Tara Chitwood, Eric Choate, Matt Close, Scott Dunn, Kevin Farrell, Jake Fox, Kim Gainer, Roofia Galeshi, Kurt Gingrich, Stephen Glass, Rhett Herman, Judy Jenks, Jae Jeong, Naveen Joseph, Sarah Kennedy, Kim Lane, Michelle Lenhart, Luke Liska, Eric Mesmer, Camilla Morrison (Robyn Berg), Kereen Mullenbach, Roby Page, Tara Pelletier (Jamie Lau), Inessa Plekhanova, Geoff Pollick, Sarah Rakes, Daniel Reed, Tara Riddle, Tammy Robinson, Rachel Rotert, David Sallee, Carrie Sanders, Rachel Santos, Will Sawyer, Liang Shao, Judy Smith, Ryan Smith, Jake Stewart (Chase Poulsen), Eftila Tanellari, Susan Van Patten, Marjorie Young

Members absent:

Ian Barland, John Brummette, Wendy Eckenrod-Green, Brent Webb

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Dr. Matthew Close.
- II. The minutes of the February 20, 2025, meeting were approved by acclamation.
- III. University President's Report: Dr. Bret Danilowicz
 - a. Enrollment projections for Fall 2025 continue to track upwards. Thanks to colleagues who will participate in upcoming Highlander Days and other recruitment activities.
 - b. Provost Usher has updated President Danilowicz on progress towards updating the general education curriculum.
 - c. The University administration continues to monitor circumstances relating to the recent U.S. Department of Education "dear colleague" letter and will provide guidance as needed.
- IV. Provost's Report: Dr. Bethany Usher
 - a. Provost Usher communicated appreciation to colleagues for participation in various efforts to update curriculum, governance, and policies.
 - b. A proposal is under consideration to alter the tuition structure for undergraduate students enrolled in more than 16 credit hours per semester and has been developed in discussion with the Student Success Council, through review by the Academic Policies and Procedures Committee, and receiving the support of the Cabinet. The Board of Visitors will begin consideration of the proposal at its upcoming meeting.
 - c. Provost Usher presented proposed final exam scheduling procedures for the last week of the Fall 2025 semester in the updated academic calendar and described support resources. The presentation file and support information were shared with senators via email, following the meeting.

- V. Faculty Senate President’s Report: Dr. Matthew Close
 - a. President Close reminded senators of the “We Are Radford” employee recognition program and encouraged colleagues to [submit nominations](#).
 - b. The Faculty Senate Executive Council received nominations for three, tenured Teaching and Research Faculty to serve on the University Internal Governance Review Committee (UIGRC), and appointed Dr. Kim Gainer, Dr. Nicole Hendrix, and Dr. Katie Hilden to serve on the committee. Dr. Close thanked these colleagues and Dr. Eric Choate and Dr. Kereen Mullenbach—who serve on the committee by virtue of chairing Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee and Governance Committee, respectively—for their willingness to serve on the committee. The UIGRC is expected to convene in mid-April 2025.
 - c. The General Education Improvement Task Force convened on December 16, 2024, and completed its work on February 27, 2025. The task force submitted recommendations to President Close and Provost Usher, in “[A Proposal for General Education at Radford University](#)” which is available on the [Faculty Senate webpage](#). President Close thanked the members of the task force, Provost Usher, and Dr. Jennifer Hart, who supported the task force as an expert facilitator. The proposal was approved by REAL Council and is now referred to the Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee. All senators are requested carefully to review the proposal and its supporting documentation. Dr. David Beach, chair of the task force and Director of Undergraduate Curriculum, has clarified that Faculty Senate is asked to vote on the proposed curricular model (pages 3 to 7 of the document). Drafts of supporting documentation are also included, to advise consideration of the proposed curricular model.
 - d. President Close reminded senators, faculty observers, and guests of the procedures for introducing, discussing, and voting upon motions.

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Campus Environment
 - 1. No report.
- b. Curriculum
 - 1. The committee has begun review of the general education proposal and will forward a motion after completing its review.
- c. Faculty Issues
 - 1. Motion in New Business.
- d. Governance
 - 1. Motion in Old Business.
 - 2. Began discussion of a proposal to update the name, membership, and charges of the Graduate Affairs Council, referred to Faculty Senate by the Curriculum Lifecycle and Process Improvement Task Force. The committee will next discuss the proposal with Interim Assistant Provost for Graduate Affairs, Dr. Agida Manizade.
- e. Resource Allocation
 - 1. The committee observed the February 26, 2025, special meeting of the Board of Visitors at which the Board began consideration of items to inform their regular review of the University budget. Notable items included the projection of stable enrollment for 2025-2026, and an anticipated request for a small increase in tuition and fees for 2025-2026.

VII. Old Business

- a. Motion 24-25.10 Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the Faculty Grievance Committee as described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*

Motion to Amend, adding “two tenured at-large members selected by the Faculty Senate Executive Council,” following “one elected tenured faculty member from each college.” Second. Amendment passed 43 yea, 0 no, 0 abstain.

Motion 24-25.10 passed 43 yea, 0 no, 0 abstain.

- b. Motion 24-25.11: Motion to Create the Master of Science in Clinical Psychology

Motion to Suspend the Rules to Extend Time to 5:00 p.m. if discussion of Motion 24-25.11 continues after 4:50 p.m. Motion failed 20 yea, 20 no, 1 abstain.

Motion 24-25.11 passed 23 yea, 18 no, 3 abstain.

VIII. New Business

- a. Motion 24-25.12: Motion to Revise T&R Faculty Handbook on Student Evaluations of Faculty

IX. Announcements

- X. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

[To the Table of Contents](#)

March 27, 2025

MINUTES
2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting
March 27, 2025
via Zoom videoconference

Members present:

Alyssa Archer, Ian Barland, Kim Baskette, John Brummette, Elliot Carhart, Mike Chatham, Tara Chitwood, Eric Choate, Matt Close, Kevin Farrell, Jake Fox, Kim Gainer, Roofia Galeshi, Kurt Gingrich, Stephen Glass, Rhett Herman, Judy Jenks (Katie Katz), Jae Jeong, Naveen Joseph, Sarah Kennedy, Kim Lane, Michelle Lenhart, Luke Liska, Eric Mesmer, Camilla Morrison, Kereen Mullenbach, Roby Page, Tara Pelletier, Inessa Plekhanova (Amy VanKirk), Geoff Pollick, Sarah Rakes (Susan Schoppelrey), Daniel Reed, Tara Riddle, Tammy Robinson, Rachel Rotert, David Sallee, Carrie Sanders, Rachel Santos, Will Sawyer, Liang Shao, Judy Smith, Ryan Smith, Jake Stewart, Eftila Tanellari, Susan Van Patten, Brent Webb, Marjorie Young (LeAnna Ratliff)

Members absent:

Brian Buccola, Scott Dunn, Wendy Eckenrod-Green

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Dr. Matthew Close.
- II. The minutes of the March 6, 2025, meeting were approved by acclamation.
- III. University President's Report: Dr. Bret Danilowicz
 - a. Governor Youngkin reviewed legislative budget proposals and did not alter the items requested for Radford University.
 - b. Enrollment projections for Fall 2025 continue to track upwards, with an increase of more than 100 new-student deposits currently received in comparison with Fall 2024.
 - c. All university boards of visitors in Virginia have been requested by the Commonwealth to issue resolutions in response to federal-government policy changes relating to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Radford University's Board of Visitors approved such a resolution on March 21, 2025, and Faculty Senate President Matthew Close distributed the text of this resolution to Faculty Senators on March 26, 2025. The resolution will be available in the [minutes](#) of the March 21, 2025, meeting of the Board of Visitors, once they are published. University administrators will keep faculty updated as responses to federal policy in this area are considered and implemented.
- IV. Provost's Report: Dr. Bethany Usher
 - a. Provost Usher reported to the Board of Visitors on behalf of Academic Affairs. The slides of her report are available with [the materials for the March 20, 2025, meeting](#) of the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee of the Board of Visitors.
 - b. Provost Usher will host a series of four, 12:00 Noon, lunch-and-learn discussions to share dialogue with faculty about responses to the Department of Education "dear colleague" letter and other initiatives: April 7 in McConnell Library ILC-B, April 16 in RUC Board Room, April 22 in McConnell Library ILC-B, and May 1 in RHEC room 501E.

- c. In response to feedback received from faculty, Provost Usher will postpone implementation of the proposed revision to the last week of the semester and final exam scheduling through 2025-2026, while the proposal is reviewed by the Academic Policies and Procedures Committee during that period. The revised academic calendar will still be implemented, but the last week of the semester and final exam scheduling will not be altered while the proposal is under review.
 - d. Dean searches are in the last stages for the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences and the College of Visual and Performing Arts. Candidates for CHBS concluded their visits this week and candidates for CVPA begin their visits this week.
- V. Special Report on the Recommendations of the General Education Improvement Task Force:
Dr. David Beach
- a. Dr. Beach, task force facilitator and coach Dr. Jennifer Hart, and members of the Task Force delivered a report of their recommendations, which are entered into new business as Motion 24-25.20 Motion to Revise the General Education Curriculum. The recommendations include 1) a proposed model for general education, which is the item for vote, and 2) a series of policy and implementation recommendations that supplement the proposed model.
 - b. The slides presented during the report were distributed to senators following the meeting by the Faculty Senate secretary.
- VI. Faculty Senate President's Report: Dr. Matthew Close
- a. President Close reported to the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee of the Board of Visitors on behalf of Teaching and Research Faculty at the committee's March 20, 2025, meeting. His report summarized activities relating to general education, approval of the proposal to offer the M.S. in Clinical Psychology, forthcoming data from the Faculty Morale Survey, and university internal governance review.
 - b. The COACHE survey is due from faculty by April 4.
 - c. H.B. 1621 on the composition of boards of visitors was passed by both houses of the Virginia legislature and was vetoed by the governor. S.B. 917, repealing prohibitions against collective bargaining by Commonwealth employees, was passed by both houses of the Virginia legislature and was vetoed by the governor.
- VII. Committee Reports
- a. Campus Environment
 - 1. Results of the Faculty Morale survey will be submitted to the FSEC soon.
 - 2. Vice President Dannette Gomez Beane will attend the committee's next meeting.
 - b. Curriculum
 - 1. Four items in new business.
 - c. Faculty Issues
 - 1. One item in old business.
 - 2. One item in new business.
 - d. Governance
 - 1. Four items in new business.
 - 2. The survey on the evaluation of deans will soon be distributed by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Improvement, and will remain open from March 31 to April 7.
 - e. Resource Allocation
 - 1. No report.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Motion 24-25.12: Motion to Revise the T&R Handbook on Student Evaluations of Faculty.

Motion 24-25.12 passed 43 yea, 0 no, 2 abstain.

Motion to Suspend the Rules so that items of new business Motion 24-25.13, Motion 24-25.14, and Motion 24-25.15 may be considered as old business in this meeting. Second. Motion passed 43 yea, 2 no, 1 abstain.

- b. Motion 24-25.13: Motion to Revise the Graduate Certificate in Mathematics

Motion 24-25.13 passed 43 yea, 2 no, 1 abstain.

- c. Motion 24-25.14: Motion to Delete the Literature and Cultural Analysis Minor

Motion 24-25.14 passed 44 yea, 0 no, 1 abstain.

- d. Motion 24-25.15: Motion to Delete the Literature and Expression Minor

Motion 24-25.15 passed 44 yea, 0 no, 1 abstain.

IX. New Business

- a. Motion 24-25.13: Motion to Revise the Graduate Certificate in Mathematics
 1. Considered under Old Business.
- b. Motion 24-25.14: Motion to Delete the Literature and Cultural Analysis Minor
 1. Considered under Old Business.
- c. Motion 24-25.15: Motion to Delete the Literature and Expression Minor
 1. Considered under Old Business.
- d. Motion 24-25.16: Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the Academic Policies and Procedures Committee as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*
- e. Motion 24-25.17: Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the REAL Council as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*
- f. Motion 24-25.18: Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the Student Evaluations of Faculty Committee as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*
- g. Motion 24-25.19: Motion to Revise T&R Faculty Handbook on Reappointment of Chairs and Directors
- h. Motion 24-25.20: Motion to Revise the General Education Curriculum
- i. Motion 24-25.21: Motion to Update the Membership Composition, Charges, and Name of the Graduate Affairs Council as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*

The meeting was adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

[To the Table of Contents](#)

April 10, 2025

MINUTES
2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting
April 10, 2025
via Zoom videoconference

Members present:

Alyssa Archer, Ian Barland, Kim Baskette, Elliot Carhart, Mike Chatham, Tara Chitwood, Eric Choate, Matt Close, Scott Dunn, Wendy Eckenrod-Green, Kevin Farrell, Jake Fox, Kim Gainer (Courtney Watson), Roofia Galeshi, Kurt Gingrich, Stephen Glass, Rhett Herman, Judy Jenks, Jae Jeong, Naveen Joseph, Sarah Kennedy, Kim Lane, Michelle Lenhart, Luke Liska, Eric Mesmer, Camilla Morrison, Kereen Mullenbach, Roby Page, Tara Pelletier, Inessa Plekhanova, Geoff Pollick, Sarah Rakes, Daniel Reed, Tara Riddle, Tammy Robinson, Rachel Rotert, David Sallee, Carrie Sanders, Rachel Santos, Will Sawyer, Liang Shao, Judy Smith, Ryan Smith, Jake Stewart, Eftila Tanellari, Susan Van Patten, Brent Webb, Marjorie Young

Members absent:

Brian Buccola, John Brummette

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Dr. Matthew Close.
- II. The minutes of the March 27, 2025, meeting were approved by acclamation.
- III. University President's Report: Dr. Bret Danilowicz
 - a. No report.
- IV. Provost's Report: Dr. Bethany Usher
 - a. Provost Usher thanked Faculty Senate for its partnership in advancing initiatives within Academic Affairs and attending to the normal operations of the university.
 - b. Provost Usher summarized budgetary funds that she has allocated to support implementation of the proposed general education curricular revision, if it is approved, and conveyed the support of other vice presidents for the proposal.
 - c. The Executive Cabinet is planning to include in the 2026 budget a revised undergraduate tuition policy allowing registration for up to 18 credit hours under the standard tuition rate and the Board of Visitors will review the proposed policy when it considers the budget.
- V. Faculty Senate President's Report: Dr. Matthew Close
 - a. President Close invited the Campus Environment Committee to share a presentation on the Faculty Morale Survey Summary Report for Spring 2024.
 1. Dr. Ryan Smith, chair of the committee, reported on the survey. The survey summary report is available at https://www.radford.edu/faculty-senate/_documents/report-of-the-2024-fms-v3-04-06-2025.pdf.
 - b. President Close invited the Parliamentarian, Dr. Kurt Gingrich, to remind senators of procedural items in *Robert's Rules of Order* and in the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate.

VI. Committee Reports

a. Campus Environment

1. The Faculty Morale Survey summary report is now available at the Faculty Senate website.
2. Vice President Dannette Beane met with the committee to report on the accomplishments of Enrollment Management and Strategic Communication.

b. Curriculum

1. One motion in old business.
2. Two motions in new business.

c. Faculty Issues

1. Discussed the role of personnel committees in schools and departments.
2. One motion in old business.

d. Governance

1. Four motions in old business.
2. Three motions in new business.

e. Resource Allocation

1. Prepared items for the upcoming meeting of the University Planning and Budget Advisory Committee, one on resources allocated for faculty research and another on resources allocated for certificate-based education.
2. Began exploration of resources allocated for Faculty Professional Development Leave, likely to recommend a careful examination of this matter in the next session of the Faculty Senate.
3. Began discussion of the committee's Continuity Report for the next session.

VII. Old Business

- a. Motion 24-25.16: Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the Academic Policies and Procedures Committee as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*

Motion passed 44 yea, 0 no, 1 abstain

- b. Motion 24-25.17: Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the REAL Council as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*

Motion passed 45 yea, 0 no, 0 abstain

- c. Motion 24-25.18: Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the Student Evaluations of Faculty Committee as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*

Motion passed 46 yea, 0 no, 0 abstain

- d. Motion 24-25.19: Motion to Revise T&R Faculty Handbook on Reappointment of Chairs and Directors

Motion failed 13 yea, 28 no, 5 abstain

- e. Motion 24-25.20: Motion to Revise the General Education Curriculum

Motion to Amend, adding “, to take effect during the 2027-2028 academic year, so that adequate time may be taken for its implementation” following “submitted to the Faculty Senate by the General Education Improvement Task Force.” Second. Motion failed 18 yea, 26 no, 2 abstain.

Motion to Suspend the Rules to Extend Time to 5:00 p.m. Second. Motion passed 31 yea, 15 no, 0 abstain.

Motion to Call the Previous Question. Second. Motion failed 26 yea, 18 no, 0 abstain.

- f. Motion 24-25.21: Motion to Update the Membership Composition, Charges, and Name of the Graduate Affairs Council as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*

VIII. New Business

- a. Motion 24-25.22: Motion to Create the B.S. in Applied Biotechnology
- b. Motion 24-25.23: Motion to Create the Minor in Foods and Nutrition
- c. Motion 24-25.24: Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the Faculty Awards Committee as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*
- d. Motion 24-25.25: Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the Intellectual Property Committee as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*
- e. Motion 24-25.26: Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the Scholarly Activities Committee as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*

IX. Announcements

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

[To the Table of Contents](#)

April 24, 2025

MINUTES
2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting
April 24, 2025
via Zoom videoconference

Members present:

Alyssa Archer (Elizabeth McCormick), Ian Barland, Kim Baskette, Brian Buccola, Elliot Carhart, Mike Chatham, Tara Chitwood (LeAnna Ratliff), Eric Choate, Matt Close, Scott Dunn, Kevin Farrell, Jake Fox, Kim Gainer, Roofia Galeshi, Kurt Gingrich, Stephen Glass, Rhett Herman, Judy Jenks, Jae Jeong, Naveen Joseph, Sarah Kennedy, Kim Lane, Michelle Lenhart, Luke Liska, Eric Mesmer, Camilla Morrison, Kereen Mullenbach, Roby Page, Tara Pelletier, Inessa Plekhanova, Geoff Pollick, Sarah Rakes, Daniel Reed, Tara Riddle, Tammy Robinson, Rachel Rotert, David Sallee, Carrie Sanders, Rachel Santos, Will Sawyer, Liang Shao, Judy Smith, Ryan Smith, Jake Stewart, Eftila Tanellari, Susan Van Patten, Brent Webb, Marjorie Young

Members absent:

Wendy Eckenrod-Green

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Dr. Matthew Close.
- II. The minutes of the April 10, 2025, meeting were approved by acclamation.
- III. University President's Report: Dr. Bret Danilowicz
 - a. University leadership is monitoring conditions for institutional responses to national circumstances so that the university will be supported optimally.
 - b. Review of institutional divisions according to the March 20, 2025, Board of Visitors Resolution of Radford University Supporting an Environment Free from Discrimination has resulted in plans to restructure the Center for Diversity and Inclusion. A new Office of Connected Communities will be established over the coming summer and will support affinity groups for students, faculty, and staff.
 - c. Some credit-bearing Competency-Based Education programs that relate to Continuing Education will be moved under Academic Affairs during the coming summer.
 - d. Searches for Executive Assistant to the President and for Chief of Staff are nearing completion.
- IV. Provost's Report: Dr. Bethany Usher
 - a. The Student Engagement Forum will be held on April 29-30 and the first annual Faculty Awards Ceremony will be held on April 30, both with the intention of recognizing the good work accomplished by students and faculty. Provost awards for scholar-athletes will also be conferred at the Athletics banquet, including recognition of faculty who have supported these students.
 - b. Enrollment and retention figures continue to demonstrate strength. Overall enrollment is 800 greater than last academic year and projected new student enrollment is expected to be equivalent to or higher than this academic year, with 200 more deposits received currently in comparison to the previous year.

- c. Dr. Rachel Marie-Crane Williams has been hired as Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts and will begin her appointment on July 10, 2025. The search for a new dean of the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences will continue in the fall semester. Position announcements for Assistant Provost for Graduate Studies, Executive Director for Health Sciences, and Executive Director for Online will be posted next week.

V. Faculty Senate President's Report: Dr. Matthew Close

- a. The University Internal Governance Review Committee (UIGRC) met on April 18 and approved all proposals forwarded from the Faculty Senate as of that date. The committee will continue to receive motions from this body, which will be reviewed electronically during the summer. The committee will next convene in the fall to begin the regular quadrennial review of Internal Governance documents and procedures.
- b. Following today's meeting, senators whose terms continue in the 2025-2026 session and newly elected senators will receive solicitation to consider nomination for officers of the senate. The 2025-2026 Faculty Senate will convene immediately following our adjournment on May 1 and nominations will be taken from the floor at that meeting, with election of officers being the sole item of business. Senators are requested to consider serving on the Executive Council and may self-nominate or nominate another senator whose permission has been obtained.
- c. When we reach business in the agenda, the president will entertain a motion to suspend the rules so that Motion 24-25.27 may be considered as business brought by the Executive Council, seeing that the motion reached senate after the March 1 deadline for referral to committee, in accordance with Faculty Senate Bylaw 6.
- d. A senator has requested that we enter closed session for the duration of debate of Motion 24-25.20. Senators and members of the General Faculty may remain in closed session and guests will be requested to exit the meeting until open session resumes.
- e. Senators are asked to adhere to the rules of discussion of motions, conduct, and decorum as outlined in the bylaws and in *Robert's Rules of Order*.

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Campus Environment
 - 1. Request that senators share the [Faculty Morale Survey summary report](#) with constituents, available at the Faculty Senate "Documents" webpage.
- b. Curriculum
 - 1. Three motions in old business.
 - 2. Three motions in new business, dependent upon passage of Motion 24-25.20 (to be withdrawn if that motion fails).
- c. Faculty Issues
 - 1. No report.
- d. Governance
 - 1. Deans' review letters have been prepared and forwarded to the provost.
 - 2. Three motions in old business.
- e. Resource Allocation
 - 1. Continued work on its continuity report.
 - 2. Began discussion of funding levels for faculty research and for Faculty Professional Development Leave.
 - 3. Members of the committee were thanked for their efforts this session.

VII. Old Business

- a. Motion 24-25.20: Motion to Revise the General Education Curriculum

Motion passed 34 yea, 11 no, 3 abstain

- b. Motion 24-25.21: Motion to Update the Membership Composition, Charges, and Name of the Graduate Affairs Council as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*

Motion passed 39 yea, 6 no, 2 abstain

- c. Motion 24-25.22: Motion to Create the B.S. in Applied Biotechnology

Motion passed 46 yea, 0 no, 1 abstain

Motion to Suspend the Rules to Extend Time to 5:00 p.m. Second. Motion failed
28 yea, 18 no, 2 abstain.

- d. Motion 24-25.23: Motion to Create the Minor in Foods and Nutrition

Motion passed 47 yea, 0 no, 0 abstain

- e. Motion 24-25.24: Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the Faculty Awards Committee as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*

- f. Motion 24-25.25: Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the Intellectual Property Committee as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*

- g. Motion 24-25.26: Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the Scholarly Activities Committee as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*

VIII. New Business

- a. Motion 24-25.27: Motion to Replace the Academic Program Review and Enhancement Committee in *Academic Governance at Radford University* with a Curriculum Lifecycle Committee
- b. Motion 24-25.28: Motion to Modify the REAL Curriculum by Removing the 300-Level or Above REAL Course Requirement from Majors and Minors
- c. Motion 24-25.29: Motion to Modify the REAL Curriculum by Removing the Required 300-Level or Higher Writing Intensive Requirement
- d. Motion 24-25.30: Motion to Modify the REAL Curriculum by Waiving the Completion of Minor Requirements to Meet a REAL Designation

IX. Announcements

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

[To the Table of Contents](#)

May 1, 2025

MINUTES
2024-2025 Faculty Senate Meeting
May 1, 2025
via Zoom videoconference

Members present:

Alyssa Archer, Kim Baskette, John Brummette, Brian Buccola, Elliot Carhart, Mike Chatham, Eric Choate, Matt Close, Scott Dunn, Kevin Farrell, Jake Fox, Kim Gainer, Roofia Galeshi, Kurt Gingrich, Stephen Glass, Rhett Herman, Judy Jenks, Jae Jeong, Sarah Kennedy, Kim Lane, Michelle Lenhart, Luke Liska, Eric Mesmer, Camilla Morrison, Kereen Mullenbach, Roby Page, Tara Pelletier, Inessa Plekhanova, Geoff Pollick, Sarah Rakes, Daniel Reed, Tara Riddle, Tammy Robinson, Rachel Rotert, David Sallee, Carrie Sanders, Rachel Santos, Will Sawyer, Liang Shao, Judy Smith, Ryan Smith, Eftila Tanellari, Susan Van Patten, Brent Webb, Marjorie Young

Members absent:

Ian Barland, Tara Chitwood, Wendy Eckenrod-Green, Naveen Joseph, Jake Stewart

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Dr. Matthew Close.
- II. The minutes of the April 24, 2025, meeting were approved by acclamation.
- III. University President's Report: Dr. Bret Danilowicz
 - a. No report.
- IV. Provost's Report: Dr. Bethany Usher
 - a. Provost Usher shared an update on Academic Affairs accomplishments for 2024-2025 and on collaborations between the Office of the Provost and Faculty Senate. A slide deck of the report was distributed to senators following the meeting.
 - b. Provost Usher thanked the Faculty Senate Executive Council, the Parliamentarian, and Chairs of Senate Committees for their partnership and collaboration this year.
 - c. Provost Usher extended special thanks to Dr. Kim Gainer for providing support and advice.
- V. Faculty Senate President's Report: Dr. Matthew Close
 - a. The Faculty Senate of Virginia adopted a resolution this week in response to the recent Executive Order, the related US Department of Education Dear Colleague Letter, and subsequent Virginia higher education Boards of Visitors' resolutions, stating: "The Faculty Senate of Virginia calls for written, detailed, and public updates on the specific programs, policy, and practices impacted by the recent and coordinated Board of Visitor actions in response to 'the Presidential Executive Order on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.'"
 - b. On April 23, the Faculty Senate Executive Council received from the Director of Undergraduate Curriculum two draft structures for implementing the new general education program approved in Motion 24-25.20. One draft structure supports a Fall 2026 implementation of the program and the other supports a Fall 2027 implementation. Following discussion, the FSEC determined to recommend that the Executive Council of

the 2025-2026 Faculty Senate take up consideration of the structures best suited to support implementation. This recommendation will be submitted as part of the Continuity Report of the Executive Council.

- c. Thanks to Dr. Kurt Gingrich, past president and parliamentarian, for his work this year *ex-officio* and his previous years of service.
- d. The chair will entertain a Motion to Suspend the Rules to determine whether Motion 24-25.27 may be considered as business brought by the Executive Council, following Bylaw 6.

Motion to Suspend the Rules so that Motion 24-25.27 may be considered as business brought by the Executive Council. Second. Motion passed 40 yea, 2 no, 1 abstain.

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Campus Environment
 - 1. Thanks to the committee members for their hard work this year.
- b. Curriculum
 - 1. Thanks to the committee members for their hard work this year.
 - 2. Three motions in old business.
- c. Faculty Issues
 - 1. No report.
- d. Governance
 - 1. Thanks to the committee members for their hard work this year.
 - 2. Three motions in old business.
 - 3. Deans' Annual Reports letters have been submitted to Provost Usher.
- e. Resource Allocation
 - 1. No report.

VII. Old Business

Motion to Suspend the Rules so that old business may be considered out of order of the agenda, placing Motion 24-25.27 after consideration of Motion 24-25.26 in the order of business. Second. Motion passed 42 yea, 2 no, 0 abstain.

- a. Motion 24-25.24: Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the Faculty Awards Committee as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*

Motion passed 42 yea, 1 no, 0 abstain.

- b. Motion 24-25.25: Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the Intellectual Property Committee as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*

Motion passed 42 yea, 1 no, 0 abstain.

- c. Motion 24-25.26: Motion to Update the Membership Composition of the Scholarly Activities Committee as Described in *Academic Governance at Radford University*

Motion to Amend, to strike "appointed by the Faculty Senate Executive Council." Second. Motion passed 44 yea, 0 no, 0 abstain.

Motion passed as amended 43 yea, 1 no, 0 abstain.

- d. Motion 24-25.27: Motion to Replace the Academic Program Review and Enhancement Committee in *Academic Governance at Radford University* with a Curriculum Lifecycle Committee

Motion passed 39 yea, 3 no, 1 abstain.

- e. Motion 24-25.28: Motion to Motion to Modify the REAL Curriculum by Removing the 300-Level or Above REAL Course Requirement from Majors and Minors

Motion passed 28 yea, 13 no, 1 abstain.

- f. Motion 24-25.29: Motion to Modify the REAL Curriculum by Removing the Required 300-Level or Higher Writing Intensive Requirement

Motion failed 15 yea, 24 no, 4 abstain.

- g. Motion 24-25.30: Motion to Modify the REAL Curriculum by Waiving the Completion of Minor Requirements to Meet a REAL Designation

Motion passed 34 yea, 6 no, 3 abstain.

VIII. New Business

- a. None

IX. Announcements

- a. Congratulations and thanks to Dr. Matthew Close for his hard work and contributions in successfully leading the Faculty Senate this year.
- b. Thanks to Dr. Geoff Pollick for service as secretary.
- c. Continuing Senators were reminded to attend the convening of the 2025-2026 session at 4:50 p.m., following this meeting.

Motion to adjourn early. Second. Motion passed by acclamation.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

[To the Table of Contents](#)